EAST BAY EXPRESS

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Hail to the Queen

San Francisco drag performer Honey Mahogany might have what it takes to become America's next drag superstar.

By Azeen Ghorayshi

Teachers Financing Guns The California teacher's retirement system is attempting to divest itself from a company that manufactures assault weapons. But even if it does, it still won't be out of the gun business **pg. 11**

Race-Baiting in Richmond How Big Business used race to drive a wedge through Richmond's progressive community **pg. 13**

The Cat Man of West Oakland Adam Myatt is known as one half of Oakland electro-pop duo James & Evander. But now he's also known for his love of cats **pg. 33**

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On the Cover *Honey Mahogany. Photograph by Jane A Guzman Colen*

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LETTERS

A Hopeful Piece

Thank you for this hopeful piece. I felt very depressed after reading Matt Taibbi's "Secrets and Lies of the Bailout" in *Rolling Stone* about the corrupt banks, r/pobtcoin class running our economy. This article shows ways that we can fight this corruption at a community level.

Cindy Wright, Oakland

Why So Much Parking?

I love the plan to increase urban density in Downtown Berkeley but is a four-story underground parking garage really necessary? It seems based on an outdated notion that everyone is entitled to a car and a place to park it, and it feels out of place at a time when the city is actively promoting biking (a bicycle boulevard is around the corner) public transportation (the area is very well-served by AC Transit and BART), and a pedestrian friendly downtown. Why not downgrade the parking garage to a smaller space, increase the cost of parking there, and provide ample car-sharing and bike parking facilities to pick up the slack? It might make The Residences more attractive to students and young urban professionals who might have less need for a car, and there are parking garages in the area for those who still need or want to drive. Berkeley has a chance to set a precedent with this first high rise and reap the benefits of a dense and vibrant downtown population without the accompanying metal boxes on wheels taking up space.

Rick Bettis, Berkeley

Ed. Note: In Bratton: Seven Days

In Defense of the "Unsuitable"

Why are youth curfews and gang injunctions "unsuitable" for Oakland? Please explain without making non-arguments like "OPD does not have the resources to enact and enforce a youth curfew." Neither OPD nor any other police department has the resources to completely enforce every statute (consider jaywalking, exceeding the speed limit, and driving at night without turning on your headlights, for example), but that doesn't mean that those statutes should not be on the books. Youth curfews and gang injunctions have clearly been shown to be effective tools for combating crime. These tools would clearly save lives and make Oakland a safer place to live. Enacting these tools is a total "no-brainer." So why is the *Express* so hell-bent against this?

Andrew Hrtish, Oakland

Robert Gammon Responds

Curfews have not been shown to be effective tools in fighting crime. See our previous stories "Why Curfews Don't Work" (9/7/2011) and "Why a Curfew Is Still a Bad Idea" (8/22/2012). In addition, neither the Oakland Police Department nor the City of Oakland has provided data on whether the city's two current gang injunctions in North Oakland and the Fruitvale district have been effective. In fact, since the two gang injunctions were instituted, crime has gone up in those areas — much like it has in the rest of the city.

A Bizarre Choice

Bizarre choice of a police consultant for Oakland, regardless of whether you think William Bratton walks on water or not. Why go again for what Barnett already recommended in his report and the council and mayor ignored? Has any official claimed ownership of the proposal to hire Bratton? Or is everyone acting as if it were spontaneous generation so they have plausible deniability?

Levi Raphael, Oakland

Ed. Note: See "Bratton: Seven Days"

A Question of Terminology

Although it has its inconsistencies I like [Portal] and what it is striving for so thanks for giving it some column space.

I just have one comment, really in the first paragraph you describe Portal as a "brewpub." Portal does not brew any of its own beer therefore it is not a brewpub. Triple Rock, Magnolia and Drake's are brewpubs, but Portal is a beer bar-alehouse, micro-brew supporter etc.

Matthew Curtis, Oakland

Letters Policy

Please provide your full name, address, and daytime phone number although we will only print your name, city and affiliation. Send submissions to letters@EastBayExpress.com or Letters, *East Bay Express*, 620 3rd St. Oakland CA 94607. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

STOP AND FRISK IS A BAD IDEA

The controversial police tactic results in racial profiling — and there's no evidence that it reduces violent crime

By Robert Gammon

The proposal to hire **William Bratton**, the former head of the New York and Los Angeles police departments, as a consultant to OPD has generated a firestorm of controversy in Oakland. Opponents of stop and frisk are worried that city officials will adopt the controversial police tactic at Bratton's behest and justify their decision by pointing to Bratton's nationwide reputation for fighting crime. And if the city were to do that it would be a major mistake.

The simple truth is that stop and frisk results in racial profiling. A study by the ACLU found that, from 2002 to 2011, about 90 percent of the people stopped in New York police officers were black or Latino. And even more troubling was the fact that 88 percent of those people had done nothing wrong and so were not arrested. In other words, stop and frisk is a ham-handed tactic that encourages police to stop and humiliate innocent people because of the color of their skin.

Last week, *The New York Times* published an interview with a young black man living in New York who said that police stopped him at least sixty times before he turned eighteen. And each time he was stopped, he was not arrested. He was entirely innocent, but was nonetheless stopped repeatedly because he is black.

Oakland, unfortunately, also has a longstanding problem with racial profiling by its police department. The Independent court monitoring team that keeps close tabs on OPD has noted that Oakland police officers disproportionately target young black and Latino men, often pointing their guns at them for no legitimate reason. In fact, the mistreatment of people of color in Oakland has resulted in large swaths of the population wanting to have nothing to do with the city's police department.

Even OPD Chief **Howard Jordan** has acknowledged this issue, stating recently that the department needs to rebuild "trust" with the community. Jordan realizes that his department has one of the worst records in law enforcement for solving crimes in part because witnesses refuse to cooperate with police officers because their only experiences with them have been negative.

However, there are a large number of people in Oakland who don't understand this troubling dynamic — they've never been stopped by police because of the color of their skin or had a cop point his gun at them. Some good reason. Many of these folks also believe that Oakland's problem is that it's not "tough" enough on crime. And they believe that the ends justify the means — that racial profiling is an acceptable tactic if it results in less crime in the city.

But there is basic flaw in that argument. There's no concrete evidence that stop and frisk actually works. Although violent crime dropped in New York by 29 percent from 2001 to 2010 after Mayor **Michael Bloomberg** ramped up stop and frisk in his city, other large cities that did not rely on stop and frisk experienced even larger drops in violent crime during the same time period, the ACLU has noted. Violent crime declined by 37 percent in Baltimore and 49 percent in Dallas, for example.

As such, Mayor **Jean Quan** was right to tell the *San Francisco Chronicle* last week that the city does not intend to implement stop and frisk. Jordan also said in a statement that he opposes "zero tolerance" police tactics.

Bratton, by contrast, has repeatedly reaffirmed his support of stop and frisk in recent weeks. So why hire him? Quan has noted that Bratton brings more to the table than stop and frisk. As we pointed out earlier this month, Bratton is an expert in CompStat, a crime data system, and his team members are big proponents of leveraging and solving crimes — two areas in which OPD desperately needs help. Bratton also has success in steering LAPD out of its federal consent decree, and thus could assist OPD in doing the same.

But while I disagree with the tactics used by some protesters to shout down supporters of Bratton last week at a council committee meeting, I share them opposition to stop and frisk. And if Bratton recommends that Oakland adopt the tactic as it's been used in New York over the past decade, then I think it's clear that city leaders would be smart to ignore him.

High-Capacity Mags Strike Again

Last week, we noted that high-capacity magazines have flooded the streets of Oakland. And newly filed court documents show that two of the four recent murders in the ongoing Oakland gang war were committed with the same AR-15 assault rifle outfitted with same high-capacity drum magazine. Similar devices are increasingly fueling the carnage in the ongoing feud between the gangs Case Gang and Money Team.

According to a sworn declaration by Oakland police officer **Steven Barg** on January 15, 23-year-old Concord resident **Lamar Erin Webster** was identified by an unnamed witness as the shooter of 20-year-old **Eddieho Rodriguez**, who was killed on 34th and West streets around 4:45 p.m. on January 11.

Later than evening, an AR-15 rifle fitted with a drum magazine was recovered along with four other firearms from 90th Avenue and Hillside Street, where an unidentified 22-year-old was killed in his declaration. Officer Barg stated that "preliminary lab results show that the recovered AR-15 rifle test fired shell casings match the shell casings recovered from 34th St./West St." The next day police found a user manual for a high-capacity AR-15 drum magazine in Webster's car. He now faces one charge of murder and two charges of attempted murder.

All Winston contributed to this report.

Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 02510.

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LEGALIZATION NATION

PIVOTAL POT MEETING THIS WEEKEND

The movers and shakers of the cannabis legalization movement are gathering at Fort Mason in San Francisco to plot a plan for the future

By David Downs

About three hundred activists — the people who likely will operate and staff the next legalization effort in California — will gather with their allies at San Francisco's Fort Mason Center this weekend for a pivotal meeting on the future of freeing the herb "Cannabis in California: Ending the 100-Year War" sponsored by the California chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, will pack eleven strategy sessions over two days with the rock stars of the reform community, including Colorado Amendment 64 campaign co-director Mason Tvert, Washington Initiative 502 director Alison Holcomb, the leaders of Marijuana Policy Project, Drug Policy Alliance, and NORML — as well as major dispensary operators, union organizers, and pioneers in the movement. These are "people who are seriously active in legalization efforts taking place in the state," said California NORML director Dale Gieringer.

"Ending the 100-Year War" is the third gathering of its kind. The first two events occurred in Berkeley and Los Angeles after Prop 19 failed to pass in 2010. Ideas discussed at those events became part of five different 2012 initiative efforts, all of which failed to make the state ballot. A successful run in 2016 is going to take more coordination, Gieringer said.

This weekend, major reform groups will likely discuss plans to coordinate efforts on a 2016 legalization initiative. "I think the big players realize that 2016 is the realistic option," Gieringer said. "The deadline activists will press for is 2014 initiative but they are not well positioned, Gieringer said. "It's not realistic to do in the 2014 timeframe," he said, noting that in 1996 the last time state voters approved a major cannabis initiative activists were much further along in their planning than they are now. "At this point in the Prop 215 campaign, we had our language in hand," Gieringer explained. "We had a bill that had passed the legislature only to be vetoed by the governor."

But while a serious referendum campaign will likely skip the next election cycle, the federal medical marijuana crackdown rolls on. "Ending the 100-Year War" also will feature key figures in the ongoing crackdown in a session called "Responses to Federal Interference." Mendocino County Supervisor John McCowen will speak on the "Federal Sabotage of Mendocino's Ordinance," and dispensary operator Stephen DeAngelo will provide an update on the tax and forfeiture cases proceeding against Harborside Health Center in Oakland.

US Drug Czar Gil Kerlikowske stated on January 8 that the country "is in the midst of a serious conversation about marijuana." And in late December leading drug czar staffer Tommy Lanier began walking back the charge that drug cartels are growing in national forests. "It sounds sort of like they are backing off more," Gieringer said. "They've been less than aggressive."

"Ending the 100-Year War" also coincides with the beginning of the California legislature session which will almost certainly include the reintroduction of Assemblyman Tom Ammiano's medical marijuana regulation bill. "That's a big mess there that needs to be sharked up," Gieringer said of the conflicting efforts at the state Capitol. "Everybody would like to see the situation fixed in Sacramento."

For those patients and medical cannabis supporters who are angry and frustrated about the ongoing crackdown, the NORML conference also will include a panel on reform strategies that can be implemented immediately. Southern California registered nurse and organizer Lanny Swerdlow will call for tactical civic engagement in a talk titled, "Starting Brownie Mary Democratic Clubs."

It only takes twenty registered voters and about twenty hours of work to set up a weed-oriented Democratic Club, and the results can be impressive, Swerdlow said. He organized persecuted patients of the Inland Empire into the country's first-ever Brownie Mary Democratic Club named after San Francisco weed activist Brownie Mary Rathburn — a senior citizen and hospital volunteer who delivered pot brownies to AIDS patients in the Nineties. Rathburn was arrested three times, and became a global cause célèbre for medical marijuana. In 2012, the Brownie Mary Democratic Club of Riverside got the Democratic Central Committee in that city to call on President Obama to stop the dispensary raids and respect the will of Colorado and Washington voters. The resolution spread to other central committees and moved up the Democratic Party hierarchy, he said.

Swerdlow hopes to help create more than seventy Brownie Mary Democratic Clubs — one for each Democratic Central Committee in California. "Right now most elected officials have no contact with marijuana people," he said. "When an official sees you there working, that changes their perception of just who we are. They're going to see that we are showing up to three meetings and we're active — that we are going hanging for Democrats during elections." If activists start a Democratic club "they would be right in the grassroots where it's all being done," he added. "We don't have the money, but we have a lot of people and we have the time — that's just as important as the money."

Democratic club reps also can lay the foundation for a 2016 victory in California. "You have this insider position" Swerdlow explained. "I think ignoring the political process is something we do at our own peril. We are essentially a political joke, and we are facing some entrenched, powerful interests: alcohol companies, the pharmaceutical industry, prison corporations, cops."

With the legalization of pot now being implemented in Washington and Colorado, pot users in California must get involved this year Swerdlow said. "We can't just sit back. We're on a roll now."

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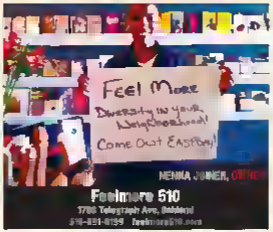
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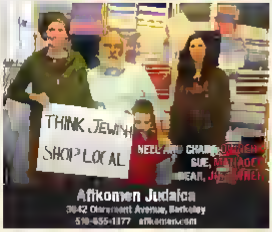
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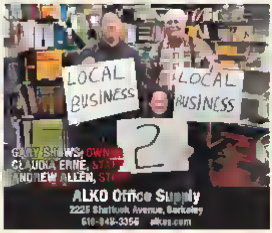
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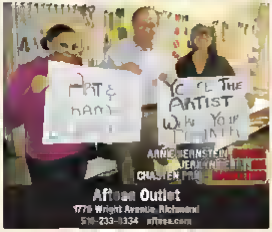
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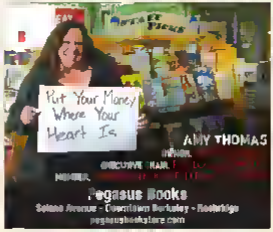
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THE OYSTER FARM GOES TO COURT

Drakes Bay Oyster Company is asking an Oakland judge to allow it to stay open

By Robert Gammon

A federal judge in Oakland could decide on Friday whether to green light the creation of the marine wilderness on the West Coast — or block it indefinitely. At issue is a federal lawsuit filed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company against US Interior Secretary Ken Salazar concerning his decision to let the oyster farm's lease expire at Point Reyes National Seashore. The oyster farm is asking federal Judge Yvonne Gonzales Rogers to issue a preliminary injunction allowing it to continue operating as the case winds its way through the courts. If the judge agrees, it will effectively block the National Park Service's plans to create a marine wilderness at Drakes Estero.

The case also could have implications for the rights of private businesses operating on public land. As the *Express* previously reported, the oyster farm's owner Kevin Lunny is being represented in court by a Washington DC nonprofit Cause of Action that has ties to the ultra-conservative Koch Brothers and the Republican Party — both of which have long sought to strengthen the rights of private enterprise at the expense of environmental protections (see "Here Come the Vultures," 12/21/12).

The lawsuit centers on the issue of whether the US government was required under federal law to conduct a comprehensive environmental review before renewing the oyster farm's request to extend its lease for ten years. Cause of Action contends that the government not only should have done so, but that the environmental review it completed was fatally flawed. The oyster farm's lawyers also say it will be ruined unless the judge grants an injunction that allows it to keep operating. "The secretary's decision will cause immediate and irreparable harm to plaintiffs, their employees, the environment, and the public," stated Cause of Action attorney Amber Abbasi in court documents. "It will kill the farm's entire shellfish crop — approximately 10 million immature oysters and 2 million immature clams — and destroy its business."

However the US Attorney's Office and environmental groups that have intervened in the case contend that the oyster farm should have been better prepared for the likelihood that Salazar would not renew the lease. As such the oyster farm's impending losses are "self-inflicted," they said. They noted that the park service had repeatedly told Lunny that his lease would not be renewed. Moreover as the *Express* has reported, a lease extension would have been unprecedented (see "Feinstein's Folly," 6/13/12). According to research conducted at UC Berkeley School of Law, the federal government has never before extended the lease of a "nonconforming" commercial operation such as an oyster farm on public land designated by Congress to become



Robert Gammon
The oyster business is supposed to close soon

wilderness. Congress made that designation for Drakes Estero in 1976. The oyster farm was allowed to keep operating at the estero until the end of its lease in November 2012.

The US Attorney's Office and environmental groups — Environmental Action Committee of West Marin, National Parks Conservation Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Save Our Seashore — also argue that there is no legal requirement for the federal government to complete an environmental review when a private company's lease is about to expire. In his decision memo in November, Salazar stated that his choice not to renew the oyster farm's lease was based on "law and policy" and not the environmental impacts of the oyster farm. (The farm does have impacts, but their extent is a matter of dispute.)

In essence, the oyster farm and Cause of Action hope to win on two legal arguments: First they contend that Salazar's decision to not renew the lease constituted a "major action" under federal law and thus is reviewable by the courts. And second they argue that legislation authored in 2009 by Senator Dianne Feinstein — a big supporter of the oyster farm — required the federal government to conduct a comprehensive environmental review if Salazar sought to deny the lease renewal. Cause of Action argues that Feinstein's bill required no such environmental review if Salazar had decided to renew the lease.

Both the US Attorney and environmental groups have labeled Cause of Action's argument as "tortured." They contend that Feinstein's bill specifically gave Salazar the discretion to renew the lease, or allow it to expire on his own without an environmental review. They also contend that the decision to let the lease expire was routine and thus not a "major action." "I think their interpretation just ignores the plain language of [Feinstein's legislation] and the law it turns it on its head," said Amy Trainer executive director of the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin.

Moreover if the oyster farm were to win in court, then it could open the door for private businesses that operate on public land to file lawsuits against the US government whenever it lets their leases expire. An oyster farm victory also could prompt other members of Congress to seek special legislation on behalf of private businesses operating on public property in their states. Knowing that it would force the federal government to complete expensive environmental reviews when denying lease extensions — but not when renewing them. Such an outcome thus could prompt cash-strapped public agencies to routinely extend leases for private companies rather than spend money they don't have on costly environmental reviews and court cases. ●

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NEWS

GAMBLING ON QUAN

Sandré Swanson may be betting his political future on the proposition that the second half of Jean Quan's tenure will go better than the first. But what if it doesn't?

By Ellen Cushing

In November, when the City of Oakland announced that it had hired longtime East Bay politician Sandré Swanson to be its city's deputy mayor, it may have come as a surprise to many. After all, the former state assemblyman, who was term-limited out at the end of last year, didn't necessarily need to prove his bona fides. In addition to his tenure in the assembly, he had served as chief of staff to Congresswoman Barbara Lee and policy advisant to then-Congressman Ron Dellums, after he dropped an initial bid to contest state Senator Loni Hancock's seat in the November election. Hancock publicly announced that she would endorse him to succeed her in 2016 — which, if history is any precedent, will make him tough to beat.

By contrast, the city — and the mayor — for whom Swanson is now working are facing a seemingly Sisyphean set of challenges, including but not limited to a crime rate that recently saw its six-year high, a police force that's staffed at roughly three-quarters of what experts argue it should be, an economy that — while it appears to have rebounded slightly from the Great Recession — has still failed to reach its potential, and a government that has eliminated redevelopment, once a crucial part of Oakland's budget. The mayor, meanwhile, has garnered low approval ratings, with only 21 percent of surveyed Oakland voters saying that she was doing an excellent or good job in an April 2012 poll.


Sandré Swanson

But Swanson has been a friend, ally, and admirer of the mayor — as well as a public servant — for decades, and the way he tells it, taking the job of deputy mayor was a no-brainer. "I support the mayor. I think she is very hardworking," he said in a recent interview. "I think that Oakland deserves the best shot at trying to get these problems resolved." In addition, he said, "Service has been so much a part of my life that when I spoke with the mayor about joining her, I was very comfortable saying 'yes.'"

Swanson will have a number of tasks in his capacity as deputy mayor. "My first priority, obviously, is to help her implement her goals, develop new ones, and improve the quality of life for the people in the City of Oakland," further explained. A big part of his job will be "working to make sure the work the mayor is doing gets communicated in a way where people can appreciate the fact that, in my opinion, I think we have one of the hardest working mayors Oakland has had. I think she's been doing a lot of things — a lot of good things — and I think it's okay for people to know about it."

Less than two months into the job, Swanson has made a point of showing up at community meetings and other City Hall events, he said he discussed the city's crime problem at a recent Sequoia Heights Neighborhood Association meeting, and intends to make more appearances at similar events.

In many ways, this makes sense. Swanson is by all accounts a charismatic person, the mayor on the other hand, has historically had some trouble communicating her ideas and her accomplishments to the public. Swanson also is highly qualified for the job. His résumé is more impressive than Quan's, and he likely would have had no difficulty landing other positions — in or out of government — if he'd wanted.

But in so closely aligning himself with a public figure who has proven to be polarizing, Swanson also may be taking a political risk. He told the *Express* that he is committed to serving the mayor through the rest of her four-year term, after which, and depending on whether Quan runs for and wins reelection, he'll decide whether to officially announce his candidacy for the state senate. If, after all, he becomes a public face of the Quan administration and the mayor continues to be unpopular, how will that bode for his senate bid?

Robert Smith, a professor of political science at San Francisco State University, for one, doesn't necessarily think Swanson has much to worry about. "Unless he does something egregiously incompetent, I don't know that he can't make the case that I was willing to sacrifice, and I did the best I could, and I'd like to continue serving the public."

But it can happen in two years, and if Swanson truly does continue to put himself between Quan and the public on myriad issues — especially contentious personal ones, like crime — some voters may be unwilling to forgive and forget in 2016.

"I'm just here to be here for the mayor in this best way that I can," he said. ●

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> **"I SUPPORT THE MAYOR; I THINK SHE'S VERY HARDWORKING," SWANSON SAID. "I THINK THAT OAKLAND DESERVES THE BEST SHOT AT GETTING THESE PROBLEMS RESOLVED." IN ADDITION, HE SAID, "SERVICE HAS BEEN SO MUCH A PART OF MY LIFE..."**



Lanza used a Bushmaster XM15 assault rifle during his shooting rampage in Connecticut.

NEWS

TEACHERS FINANCING GUNS

The California teacher's retirement system is attempting to divest itself from a company that manufactures assault weapons like the one used at Sandy Hook Elementary School. But even if it does, it still won't be out of the gun business.

By Darwin BondGraham

After Adam Lanza slaughtered twenty first graders and six adults last month in Newtown, Connecticut, teachers unions across the nation emerged as some of the most vocal advocates for stricter gun control laws. But not long after the mass shooting, it also was revealed that the California teachers retirement system likely helped finance the production of the assault weapon Adam Lanza used at Sandy Hook Elementary School. The California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) is a major investor in Cerberus Capital Management, a private equity firm that controls Freedom Group, the manufacturer of the Bushmaster XM15 assault rifle — the weapon that made Lanza's rampage at Sandy Hook so swift and deadly.

CalSTRS is now demanding that Cerberus sell Freedom Group, but even if it is successful, the pension fund likely will still be in the gun business, in fact, extracting itself completely promises to be a Herculean task.

Cerberus is the world's fourteenth-largest private equity firm, it manages $25 billion in investments. In Greek mythology Cerberus is the three-headed wolfhound that guards the gateway to the underworld of Hades. Hercules final and most dangerous task is to capture the Cerberus alive. And befitting its mythological namesake, Cerberus Capital Management invests in companies intimately involved in war and death.

Freedom Group is "family of companies," as the gun maker calls its holdings, was assembled by Cerberus in the late 2000s as a result of fifteen strategic mergers and acquisitions. In just a few years, Cerberus became one of the largest gun profiteers in the world. In addition to Bushmaster Freedom Group brands include well known gun makers like Remington and Marlin along with several ammunition producers. Freedom Group also owns TAPCO, a "tactical weapons gear" company that sells thirty-round, high-capacity magazines for assault rifles like the Bushmaster XM15. Freedom Group sells its weapons in the massive US civilian market through licensed dealers, but its guns trade by the millions on the less-regulated secondary markets of gun shows, personal sales and black markets.

CalSTRS is one of Cerberus's biggest limited partners. As such, the ultimate owners of the arms manufacturing companies that made the rifle used in Sandy Hook are California's K-12 and community college teachers.

But divestment isn't an easy process. It'll take time for Cerberus to sell Freedom Group, and that gun company is hardly the only weapons maker in Cerberus' portfolio — or in CalSTRS' for that matter. Weapons manufacturing is big business. Numerous pension funds, mutual funds, and foundations, many of which claim to follow socially and environmentally responsible guidelines when investing money, hold big stakes in companies that make and sell everything from pistols to missiles.

CalSTRS' partnership with Wall Street's hound of hell began in 2003 when the pension's board voted to invest $100 million in Cerberus Capital Management Institutional GP, LP. This private equity fund was then used to buy out Freedom Group and other gun- and ammo-makers over the next several years. In 2007 and 2008, CalSTRS placed another $450 million with Cerberus as it continued to gobble up gun companies, among other investments.

Today CalSTRS claims those were mere or less innocent investments that just happened to get funneled into the small arms industry. But Cerberus didn't just "happen" to buy up gun companies because they were profitable. This wasn't a case of Wall Street money managers buying out a business they had no real knowledge of or interest in besides profits. Rather, weapons have been a core business area for Cerberus since its founding.

Cerberus, based in New York, was established in 1992 by a clique of wealthy and politically connected investors, most notably former US Vice President Dan Quayle, future US Treasury Secretary John Snow and the firm's co-founder Stephen Feinberg. They dove into weapons manufacturing about ten years ago with a focus on firearms and set about methodically assembling Freedom Group. Cerberus hired NRA-affiliated gun lobbyist George Kollitides in 2003 to lead its "defense and firearms" portfolio according to a 2011 Freedom Group press release.

"Kollitides was the principal architect of the investments in [Freedom Group] for Cerberus," the company explained. In addition to building up Cerberus's weapons empire, "[Kollitides] led a successful campaign to combat anti-gun legislation in New York," bragged Cerberus' press brief.

Perhaps the CalSTRS board wasn't paying attention to what Cerberus was doing with some of the teachers' $750 million in cash. To be fair CalSTRS has $58 billion in teacher retirement savings parked with about 260 different private equity funds. As Sandy Hook made the realization of what Cerberus had done with CalSTRS' money set State Treasurer Bill Lockyer and the pension board to issue a call for Cerberus to fully divest from Freedom Group especially because the Bushmaster XM15 rifle is illegal in California.

CalSTRS spokesman Ricardo Duran said the pension's effort to divest from makers of illegal weapons doesn't stop with Cerberus. "We are reviewing our entire portfolio and we've identified two other companies in the public equity sphere in which we own stake," said Duran.

CalSTRS owns a combined $6 million in Smith & Wesson and Sturm, Ruger & Co. stock. Both companies make guns that cannot be sold in California. "They're the result of automatic purchases, basically," said Duran describing CalSTRS' vast stock holdings. "We're now going through the divestment process."

Prompted by CalSTRS, Cerberus has agreed to sell Freedom Group, fearing a loss of access to the pension fund's money more than the loss of the gun-maker's profits, to a press release following Sandy Hook, Cerberus attempted to downplay its holdings in weapons makers, and its extensive political meddling in gun control and weapons laws.

"As a firm, we are investors, not statesmen or policy makers" the company's statement read. "Our role is to make investments on behalf of our clients who are composed of the pension plans of firemen, teachers, policemen and other municipal workers and unions, endowments, and other institutions and individuals. It is not our role to take positions or attempt to shape or influence the gun control policy debate. That is the job of our federal and state legislators.

However Cerberus does, in fact, attempt to shape and influence federal and state legislators. Since 2003, Cerberus has spent more than $16 million lobbying the US Congress. Much of this influence-peddling was focused on matters related to the taxpayer bailout of Chrysler and its financial subsidiaries that Cerberus once owned, but a significant share of lobbying firepower was directed at gun laws and regulations. According to Senate lobbying disclosure records Cerberus hired several Washington DC firms to influence House and Senate members on topics related to "small arms sales to the Department of Defense and foreign military sales of small arms under Department of Defense contracts, and "small arms industrial base reform." The former issue pertains to Freedom Group's lucrative weapons sales to foreign nations such as Colombia; the Republic of Georgia and Oman, in addition to gun sales to the US military. The latter lobbying issue refers to federal subsidies intended to support US gun manufacturers.

Cerberus is also a registered employer of lobbyists in California Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania — states where the firm has sizable public pension investments. Subsidiaries of Freedom Group such as Remington Arms and Bushmaster have funneled thousands of dollars into state campaigns in New York, South Carolina, and Maine in recent years, according to data compiled by the National Institute for Money in State Politics.

Since 2007 Cerberus managers have made more than $1 million in federal campaign contributions, most of it to the Republican Party and its candidates. A big chunk of Cerberus' federal contributions last year went into an unsuccessful attempt to reelect Ben Quayle to the US House of Representatives. Former Vice President and Cerberus Capital chairman Dan Quayle is Ben's father, and both Quayles in and out of office have promoted zero-regulation gun policies that have been highly profitable for Cerberus.

After the Aurora, Colorado theater slayings in which a deranged gunmen used a Remington shotgun and one of Freedom Group's weapons) to kill twelve people, Ben Quayle, then still a Congressman, was outspoken in his opposition to any gun control legislation. "You can't regulate evil," Quayle told the *Daily Caller* dismissing the notion that round ammo clips should be banned.

As such the California teachers retirement system will continue to be a financial partner with a company that pays money to and employs politicians and lobbyists who oppose stricter gun control laws — regardless of whether that company finds a buyer for Freedom Group. Moreover Cerberus will still be invested in companies profiting from weapons and war. For example, with part of the half-billion-dollar investment made by CalSTRS in 2007 Cerberus bought DynCorp International, a military contractor that supplies armed private soldiers to war zones around the world.

As for CalSTRS, it has directly invested in a host of companies that also manufacture controversial weaponry for both civilian and military markets, including Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, TASER, United Technologies, and Alliant Techsystems. CalSTRS investments in US European and Israeli weapons makers totals at least $900 million, according to the pension's most recent portfolio report. Like a private equity partner Cerberus, some of CalSTRS direct weapons investments have appropriately hellicose names. One military contractor in which CalSTRS holds a half million-dollar stake, Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc. is named after the Greek winged demi-god of war.

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

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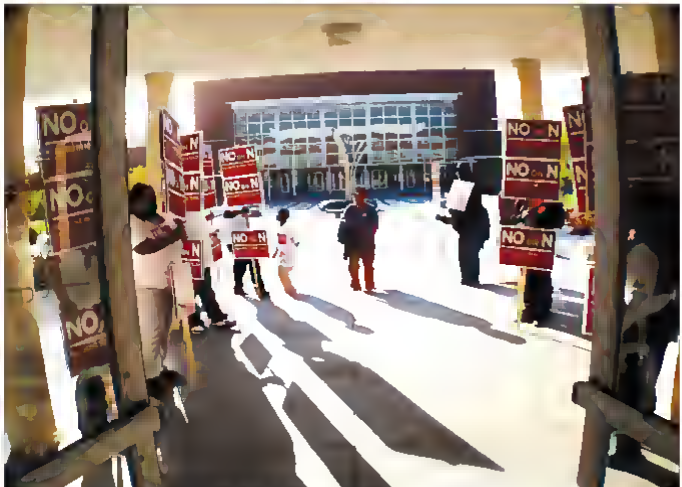


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Thn campaign against thn soda tax was backed by large companies that make a killing from selling their products to low-income youth Isabella Kasboski

Race-Baiting in Richmond

How Big Business used race to drive a wedge through Richmond's progressive community — and why you should be concerned about it.

By Wendi Jonassen

In November the headquarters for the campaign against the soda tax had become a familiar fixture in the Richmond cityscape. The office sat directly across from City Hall, and every window was plastered with bright red and yellow signs that read "NO on N." Inside, the space felt temporary. There were no posters on the walls. Cardboard boxes leaned against the corners of the office, holding stacks of glossy fliers, and most of the furniture was foldable. The previous tenant had left two red children's bikes in a corner, and no one had bothered to move them.

On most days, around 3 p.m., the employees — mostly young, African-Americans and Latinos — poured into the office, sometimes holding 32-ounce Slurpees or cans of Grape Fanta. Nine workers at a time then sat down at desks in front of nine laptops, while an untamed machine connected them to the phone numbers of Richmond residents. When someone answered, the workers read from a script: "My name is _____. I am calling on behalf of No on Measure N — the campaign against the unfair soda tax." The machines were capable of making more than 120 phone calls an hour, and during each five-hour shift, the nine workers dialed thousands of numbers.

The No on Measure N workers' paychecks were signed by political consultant Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauten & Partners (BMWL), which had been hired by the American Beverage Association — an industry trade group representing PepsiCo, Coca-Cola, Dr. Pepper Snapple and other big companies. The beverage industry set up shop in Richmond just after the city council's progressive majority decided to put Measure N, a proposed one-cent-per-ounce tax on soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages, on the November 2012 ballot.

By the time the Big Soda had arrived, the issue of race was already a factor in the campaign. Some opponents of the tax had alleged that it was racist, arguing that it would unfairly harm low-income residents in the city. And the No on Measure N campaign bankrolled by large corporations that make a fortune from selling cheap soda to low-income consumers nurtured that sentiment. Indeed, there is evidence that the beverage association helped keep race at the forefront of the campaign as part of a strategy that exploited Richmond's existing tensions. And nfter spending at least $2.7 million — believed to be a record in East Bay politics — against Measure N, the beverage industry emerged victorious as the soda tax was beaten soundly.

To retrospect, BMWL & Partners and the beverage industry had made their intentions clear to anyone who was paying attention. Two of their first forays in the community were at Cinco de Mayo, a popular Latino celebration, and Juneteenth, an event that commemorates the anniversary of African American emancipation from slavery. The anti-soda-tax campaign then quickly teamed up with black politicians and leaders who labeled Measure N as "regressive" and "racist." They had described the white liberal progressives who supported the tax in the same way. "It is an overpriced tax that is going to have regressive effects and raise the cost of living and grocery bills," said Chuck Finnie of BMWL & Partners, summing up the No on Measure N messaging.

The irony, of course, was that the proceeds from Measure N were to fund programs designed to help low-income youth combat obesity. One-third of Latino and African American children in Richmond are obese, and as that generation reaches adulthood, obesity will cause the early deaths of many of them, according to a Fitnessgram study that came out in 2010. The connection between obesity and soda, in fact, is undeniable to many public health advocates. Sodas don't satiate appetites like other junk food, and so it's easy to overindulge. Each twenty-ounce Sprite contains twenty teaspoons of sugar.

"When I think back to when I was a boy, a Coke or a Pepsi came in an eight-ounce bottle, and I remember very well that when you were lucky enough to get one of those things, you drank the eight ounces, and the event was over," Kelly Brownell, a prominent health advocate, said during the campaign at a lecture to UC Berkeley students. "You didn't go have another."

But the health debate was ultimately drowned out in the election by arguments related to race and class. And that's not unusual for Richmond. It might be one of the few cities in the country that has a history of black leaders calling white liberals "racists" and of contending that progressive ideas hurt people of color. For example, black politicians in town like Councilman Nat Bates have fought for years against environmentalists who oppose Chevron's plans to expand its massive refinery. Bates and other black leaders in the city have contended that blocking Chevron could hurt African-Americans jobs and hurt Richmond's economy.

In addition, BMWL & Partners was well aware of the racial divide within the city and deftly exploited it. Along with running the anti-soda-tax campaign on behalf of the beverage industry, BMWL & Partners worked with Chevron in 2014 as part of the oil giant's $1 million effort to elect Chevron-friendly candidates running for the city council, including Bates.

Richmond is unique because of its longstanding issues surrounding race, but the strategies employed by the anti-Measure N campaign have the potential to be repeated in other communities, particularly in those that attempt to levy taxes on large corporations that have a history of harming human health and the environment.

Although BMWL & Partners never explicitly called Measure N racist, the campaign against the soda tax clearly exploited racial tensions in Richmond. The campaign pushed the notion that the soda tax was regressive, in the same way that Big Tobacco declared that taxes on cigarettes unfairly harm low-income consumers. In both cases, the argument is dubious: Brownell noted that an item needs to be a necessary commodity for the taxation to be regressive, and soda and tobacco are definitely not necessary. But this argument that Measure N was a regressive tax worked, nonetheless.

From the start, the beverage industry and BMWL & Partners understood the ramifications of race in this argument and didn't waste time seeking out community members who might be receptive to their message. "We were at Cinco de Mayo," noted Finnin of BMWL & Partners. "We were at Juneteenth." Finnin and the anti-Measure N campaign began to form alliances at these events, typically with leaders of minority communities.

Perhaps the most crucial alliance that Finnin formed was with Councilman Corky Boozé, an ally of Nat Bates who had already labeled the soda tax as racist. Boozé who is also African American, proved to be an ideal ally because his was a political enemy of Councilman Jeff Ritterman, a white liberal who had authored Measure N. A few months prior Boozé and Ritterman were embroiled in a public dispute that included threats of physical violence. "I will punch you in the nose," Boozé had said to Ritterman. The first night Ritterman introduced the soda tax, Boozé announced, "This is we elitist tax on the poor."

In an interview Boozé (pronounced Boo-ZAY) said that when talk of a soda tax first started, he felt as if whites liberals on the city council were teaming up against him, so he sought out consultation from BMWL & Partners since the firm had represented him during his campaign for office. "They actually got me elected to the Richmond City Council," he said.

Not long after Boozé met with the BMWL & Partners, he said he introduced Finnin to Joe Fisher, forming yet another ideal alliance for the beverage industry. Fisher, a leader of the Black American Political Action Committee (BAPAC) in Richmond, also contended early on that the soda tax was racist. Over the years, Fisher also has taken money from Chevron to fight progressive and environmental causes, as the *Express* has previously reported (see "A Friend of Chevron Gives It a Costly Gift," 10/29/2008). And during the anti-soda campaign, Fisher worked for the beverage industry as a consultant. In total, BAPAC received more than $30,000. He said his job entailed "sharing my opinion with African Americans, sharing with them what I perceive as being the truth."

For Fisher, the truth meant playing the race card throughout the campaign. And BMWL & Partners hammered home the message by employing numerous black and Latino youth to work on the effort. Racial divisions over the soda tax soon became prominent. "You go to the predominantly white community, you see 'Yes' signs on this issue," Fisher said during the campaign. "Go into the black community, you see 'No' signs."

Jeff Ritterman, who has a long, gray ponytail and often wears Hawaiian shirts, worked on the soda-tax concept for years. Before he retired from office last month, he was known in town for championing idealistic, liberal ideas, including the creation of a citywide greywater system and the construction of steams farms of public transit. Most often he sided with Green Party Mayor Gayle McLaughlin and was a leader of the Richmond Progressive Alliance in its battle with Chevron.

Before his won election to the council, Ritterman was the chief cardiologist at Kaiser Richmond. During his time there, he treated numerous patients who suffered from heart disease and diabetes. Tears welled up in his eyes when he described the fear and pain he saw in patients when they were in the grips of a heart attack. He also said he was influenced greatly by the 2010 Fitnessgram study that showed that one-third of African-American and Latino children in Richmond are obese. As a physician, Ritterman knew all too well that obesity in youth often translates to early death via stroke, diabetes, or heart problems. "[The study] actually even tells you that there will be so many more heart attacks, so many more strokes," Ritterman said. "And [it] just felt unconscionable to do nothing."



Some No on N workers told lies about white progressive politicians during the campaign. Wendi Jormanson

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about half of the black population nationwide is overweight or obese, and among Latinos, it is 40 percent. At the same time, the overconsumption of soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages is increasingly being linked to health problems. Sugar-laden beverages are much easier to consume in mass quantities than solid foods like say, a cupcake. In addition, soda companies have increasingly targeted low-income communities with advertising, directing ads especially at youth.

According to Dr. Robert Lustig, a pediatric endocrinologist at UC San Francisco, it's a dangerous trend. The mass consumption of sugar via soda affects the human body much like drugs and tobacco. "In ten words or less, sugar is both toxic and abused," he said. "Every substance that is both toxic and abused at the same time requires both personal intervention, which for lack of a better word we can call rehab, or societal intervention, [which] for lack of a better word we call a tax. Same thing we do with alcohol and tobacco." Lustig also argued that education alone is not enough to fight sugar addiction.

As for the cash-strapped City of Richmond, it doesn't have money for education efforts to combat childhood obesity. And so Ritterman reasoned that a tax would raise cash for such programs while deterring youth from buying soda at the same time. Recent data supports his theory. A meta-analysis completed last year of 32 scientific studies found that an increase in the cost of soda likely would result in a decrease of consumption by as much as 24 percent, according to a report published in the journal *New Medicine*.

But Measure N became an easy victim of race-baiting in part because of the complexities of the California tax code. Because of issues related to sales taxes in the state, Ritterman decided that Measure N would have to be a business tax — a one-cent assessment on each business for every ounce of soda sold.

Measure N also was known as a general tax, which meant that it only needed 50 percent plus one vote to win. But it also meant that it could not specify exactly where the money would go, thereby opening the door to suspicion and derision. After Ritterman wrote, Ritterman authored an advisory measure — Measure O — that stated that the money would be spent on anti-obesity programs for youth. However because of California law, Measure O was non-binding.

Measure O also was too late. Some opponents of the soda tax had already spread false rumors that white liberal councilmembers intended to use the tax proceeds to give themselves raises. Some campaign workers even told residents this in "Just by human nature, somebody is going to make a mistake," Nick Panagopoulos, the office manager for the anti-soda tax campaign, said when asked about what campaign workers had done. "Sometimes when you are in the trenches doing the hard



Big Business exploited issues of race and class in the election. Rachel de Leon



Thanks for the Party!

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work, you get that mentality — it's like tunnel vision. It doesn't matter you just want to win."

Corky Booze, who proved pivotal in the campaign against the soda tax, is a longtime City Hall gadfly who ran for the city council more than ten times. He finally won a seat on the council in 2010 with the help of BMWL & Partners and white progressive Councilman Tom Bates. However, once on the city council Booze switched sides and aligned himself with Bill Bates. "What they thought is that by me being elected they would have control over me," Booze said of progressives.

Booze also started clashing with Ritterman almost immediately. And he began calling Mayor McLaughlin "racist." He has referred to progressive Councilwoman Jovanka Beckles, who is black, the same way. "I think the Richmond Progressive Alliance is very racist," he said. (McLaughlin, Ritterman and Beckles are members.) He also consistently and vehemently opposes progressive proposals and the arguments he has with them often disrupt council meetings, delaying them late into the night.

The racial divide in the city also proved to be fertile ground for the beverage industry and Chevron, which spent a combined total of at least $4 million on the November 2012 election in Richmond, making it perhaps the most expensive one in East Bay history. All that money and scare-boating worked: Measure N lost by a wide margin — 67 percent of voters cast ballots against it. And Bates and Gary Bell, two black Chevron-friendly politicians, took two of the three council seats that were up for grabs — the other went to Butt. Progressive candidate Eduardo Martinez finished a close fourth.

(However, since the election, Bell has become seriously ill, and is unable to take his seat on the council. Progressives want Martinez to take over for him, but Bates and Booze have pushed for a special election — a move that would allow Chevron and BMWL & Partners to back a candidate of their own.)

As for the No on N office, unless from City Hall, it's now closed and abandoned: all the computers are gone, the phones have been disconnected, and the tables have been folded and propped up against the wall. The office looks like no one has ever used it before — cold and empty. The beverage industry left Richmond as quickly as it came in.

Ritterman, however, isn't disheartened. The nation paid attention to Richmond last fall with Fox News hosting a debate, and food writer Mark Bittman, writing about the city in *The New York Times*, said Ritterman is already talking about a statewide initiative and a plan he calls "14 in 14," in which

CORKY BOOZE EVEN REFERS TO PROGRESSIVE COUNCILWOMAN JOVANKA BECKLES, WHO IS BLACK, AS BEING "RACIST." "I THINK THE RICHMOND PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE IS VERY RACIST," HE SAID.

fourteen cities in California would join efforts to pass a soda tax in 2014 — forcing Big Soda to fight and spend on many battlefields at once.

But the beverage industry discovered a winning formula in Richmond last year that it might be able to replicate elsewhere — an argument that the costs associated with taxes or governmental regulation on Big Business are "regressive" because they will merely be passed onto to low-income residents. And if that were to happen, it could drive a wedge through traditional Democratic constituencies in many communities with blacks and Latinos opposing their longtime political allies — progressives and environmentalists — just like they did in Richmond.

Editor@EastBayExpress.com



Jeff Ritterman plans to continue to fight Big Soda

Wendi Goldman

CULTURE SPY

HAIL TO THE QUEEN

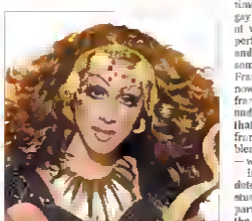
San Francisco drag performer Honey Mahogany might have what it takes to become America's next drag superstar

By Aneesh Ghoraysh

When Honey Mahogany and YvvyAnnaLoreverMORE were signed up their lip-synch duet to Mariah and Brandy's classic R&B hit "The Boy Is Mine" on a recent Friday at The Stud bar in San Francisco they immediately switched gears from glam sassiness to comic sassiness. "Oh that lip-synch we just did?" said Honey gangerly dabbing the sweat off her immaculately pencilled brow smoothing back her massive braided wig and leaning in to give an exaggerated wink to the audience. "That shit was *conceptual*."

The audience drunkenly hollered in delight. That's because at The Stud's weekly drag showcase — called descriptively "Some Thing" — Honey is decidedly more Beyoncé than Lady Gaga channeling more of a larger-than-life Diana Ross with a tempered dose of comedian diva theatricality than a self-serious reflection on the absurdity of the gender binary. In the context of the sometimes-brainily-experimental performance-art leanings of many of her San Francisco peers, Honey is sweetly digestible, but her main grace lies in being able to float seamlessly between all camps. Soon that skill may prove to be especially useful.

This Sunday, Honey — who until recently spent most of her working days going by her given name Alpha Mulugeta — will make her debut as a contestant on the fifth season of the mid hit reality TV show *RuPaul's Drag Race*, a runway and performance competition in search of "America's next drag superstar." Somewhat surprisingly, Honey's appearance marks the first of a San Francisco contestant in the show's four-year history, despite the city's diverse and thriving drag scene. From the rumor that Ru has a long standing beef with the city to the assertion that San Francisco queens are less "edgy" for national television. If anyone's guess as to what made Ru hold out on San Francisco for so long. Whatever it was, Honey Mahogany happened to be just the queen to change her mind.



Honey Mahogany is more Beyonce than Lady Gaga

Mulugeta — who was born and raised in San Francisco and comes from a Roman Catholic Ethiopian family — first dipped into the world of drag while in college at USC when a friend asked him to be in a film he was shooting mostly because he was the only man he knew that would "look great in a dress." After dabbling in drag a few more times Mulugeta left the scene until his interest grad school in social work at UC Berkeley. At this time, he had "many more lesbian friends than gay friends," so he began making appearances at various lesbian clubs in Oakland often performing alongside burlesque dancers and drag kings. He also started frequenting some more experimental drag shows in San Francisco including Tranny Shack and the now-defunct cabaret favorite Pink Slip. It was from this marriage of lesbian clubs in Oakland and avant garde drag shows in San Francisco that Honey Mahogany — whose name comes from his two shades of Revlon makeup that blend to match her caramel colored skin tone — was officially born.

In the meantime, Mulugeta was determined to finish his degree. While studying at Berkeley, he supported himself partially by being a resident advisor for the freshman dorms. There, he and another RA were obsessed with Tyra Banks' delightfully catty *America's Next Top Model* and decided to stage a gender-bending twist on the national favorite. In 2008, amidst the yearly Type-A scavenger hunts and dance competitions of the Berkeley freshman dorms, they debuted the very first "Berkeley's Next Top Drag Performer" and were shocked at the massive turnout. "We held it in the dining commons, and there were people literally watching from the windows because they couldn't get in," Honey said. Best of all, she said "people participated who weren't queer-identified at all — there were jocks, girls from the Women in Science and Engineering dorm.... It made it exciting and wonderful to watch."

Several months later, RuPaul debuted her show *RuPaul's Drag Race*, on the LGBT-oriented cable channel Logo, and it quickly became the most-watched series in the channel's history. "It was hilarious to me," said Honey. "I was like, 'Is Ru watching me?!' It was probably just some sort of synergy." The Berkeley competition has happened every year since, and — with more than one hundred attendees per year — is one of the freshman dorms most popular events. Despite her newfound fame, the event graduate Honey is still set to host this year's iteration of the drag celebration.

After graduating in 2006, Mulugeta moved to San Francisco and became a full-time social worker by day and drag queen by night. Working as a program director at the Rainbow Community Center of Contra Costa County — which offers counseling, youth programs, HIV testing, and case management — Mulugeta became used to "keeping a straight face during my job as a drag queen and my job as a social worker." Honey also worked on her burgeoning music career writing and singing her own soul-inflected old-school inspired songs. She would often sing live during her sets, rather than lip-synch — unusual in the drag scene.

In 2012, she decided to submit a video trying out for *RuPaul's Drag Race* and was accepted. Filming started almost immediately after she found out she'd be on the show, but while she was mentally prepared to perform for cameras, she wasn't so prepared for the other aspects of reality television. "It's funny I would bite the competition thinking this is a performance, so I'm gonna *perform perform perform* my ass off," she said. "Then I get there and was like 'Oh! This is also reality TV.' All the other bullshit I wasn't necessarily mentally preparing myself for and I definitely had to make an adjustment." Besides having to figure out things like how to make her own outfits for the runway competition ("I am not a seamstress, I had never been before in my life!"), Honey realized that Ru diverse, drag scene in San Francisco is something that shouldn't be taken for granted.

"When I started the show, people were like, 'You don't seem like you come from SF.' I was like girl there are so many kinds of drag that are coming out of SF," Honey said. "Doing the show has showed me that it's just not like that everywhere in most places in the US, drag is something very specific. In SF none of those rules are held sacred. You can do drag and still have a full beard, you can do drag and not wear a dress, you can do drag and just wear a wig — it's about *performance*. That's been really inspirational to me." ■

Event Details

Honey Mahogany hosts weekly viewings of *RuPaul's Drag Race* at The Midnight Sun (4067 18th St. San Francisco) featuring live drag performances by special guests. 9:30 p.m. free. Facebook.com/midnightsunsf

Aneesh.Ghoraysh@EastBayExpress.com

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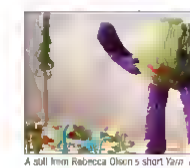
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EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS



A still from Rebecca Olson's short *Yarn Paper Scissors*

Playing With Film

A Bay Area film festival made just for kids celebrates its fifth year

In 2008, parents at The Renaissance International School, a small private school in Oakland, got together to brainstorm creative ways to raise money for the program. The parents wanted their kids to be able to be involved — and scratched their heads to come up with something that was in line with the school's artsy, trilingual curriculum. "After a while we thought, what about films?" explained Franklin Mascle, a father of two kids who attended the school at the time. "Well if we wanted it to be films, then naturally we'd have to start our own festival." Though it seemed small-time at first, the parents soon realized they might be just the right folks to take on such an endeavor. Gathered around the table were parents who worked at Pixar and in other film-industry niches including the festival circuit. "At that point," Mascle said, "we realized we actually could start our own festival. It was totally possible."

And so, with a lot of effort the parents launched the Bay Area International Children's Film Festival. As their first project, the kids in the program helped make a documentary called *The Gondolier*, about Lake Merritt's lone boatman. The kids helped with the filming, visited Rapt Productions in Oakland to see how to turn hours of footage into a film, and learned how to set tone using carefully chosen audio selections. Along with other selected shorts, the inaugural 2009 festival also featured the French children's classic *The Red Balloon*.

The debut was a wild success, and by the second year it became clear that the festival had already outgrown its origins as a simple school fundraiser. In the years since, it has continued to grow, with last year's festival hosting more than one thousand attendees across two days of screenings and workshops. On Saturday and Sunday, January 26 and 27, at Michaan's Auctions (2600 Saratoga St., Alameda), the festival returns for its fifth year.

The schedule is divided roughly by the age groups the films target: the morning movies are suitable for all ages, the afternoon shorts are for kids ages six and up, and the afternoon feature is aimed at kids ages nine and up. True to the festival's name, the selections will be international in nature, produced in Ireland, Austria, China, Portugal, Korea, Italy, Taiwan and elsewhere. "We want kids films that have a message but aren't heavy-handed," said Mascle, who serves as the festival director. "We want entertaining, beautiful films that introduce kids to other cultures and also make them think a little, but "

In addition to the 36 shorts and four features to be screened this year, the festival will also allow kids to participate in three different workshops facilitated by students from Berkeley City College's media program and directed by Pixar's Jim Capobianco — who worked as an animator on *Finding Nemo* and *Monsters Inc.* — in which they will learn to shoot live-action animation using sand, clay, or their own bodies. Kids can take home their own movies, and a short film from each workshop will be screened before each day's afternoon feature.

"For kids film is just so readily accessible," said Mascle. "We're so visually oriented these days as a culture: it's a great way to show kids how creative and beautiful things can be." 10 a.m.–4 p.m., $10–20. BAICFF.com

— *Azeen Ghorayshi*

ATTRACTIONS

The Amazing Literary Adventures of Cleo and B Wallflower An exhibit on the literary careers of husband and wife author Mercer Mayer and Aylet Waldman through Jan. 13. Free. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100, berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS, & FIESTAS

Glee, Glass, & Cement Dinner party with booths and music starring all from fabrics dyed by a seasoning of *La Chaise de La Mia Fe*. Jan 25, 5:9 p.m. $30. Jaybird Street Brewery, 85 Linden St., Oakland. 510-812-1264. Lindenstreet.com.

HEALTH, WELLNESS, & SEXUALITY

Hoʻoponopono, ancient Meditation Techniques for the Solstice Therapeutic Science A weekend Saturday where collection of family or community are brought together "to the very heart of truth" to resolve underlying issues that challenges be problems, unbalances, or past of memories. Wed Jan 30, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. free. Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave. Berkeley. 510-849-8256. PSR.net.

Relaxation Techniques for the Mind, Body, & Spirit Alice Bringloe is certified health coach will present tips for achieving total relaxation such as deep breathing, reflexology and lovely showers and facials that promote collective ether. Thu. Jan. 24, 6-8 p.m. free. E. Sentio Studio, 6618 Shattuck Ave. E. Oakla. 510-524-7512. CBCL.is.org.

Sweep Fest Come sweep knobs, t-shirts, SOSM equipment, magnets, patches, and more. Sat. Jan. 26, 3-5 p.m. free. Fenwick/SOL, 1781 Tanager Ave., Oakland. 510-814-0198. Fenwick518.com

KIDS

Exotic Ingenuity Lab Challenge Design and code stories with robots that are dazzling and fun and more. Sat. Jan. 26, noon, $5-15. The Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment, 2100 Franklin St., Oakland. MADE.org.

Early Childhood Mathematics Series Festival Invites math-loving preschool in grades K-12 to explore mathematical ideation through hands-on activities, dialogue collaborations, and problem solving. Sun. Jan. 27, 1:30-3:30 p.m. $10. Berkeley Public Library, 2090 Kittredge Ave. Berkeley. 510-981-6100. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

Make Fun Jr. the Musical Directed by Selena Wolf and Dan Sadé. Saturdays, 2 & 4 p.m. Mondays, Sundays, 12 & 5 p.m., Fri. Jan. 25, 5 & 8 p.m. Continues through Feb. 10. $15-20. Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542. Eastbaytheater.org.

The Princess and the Pea The Saint Mary's College Performing Arts Department will present a stage adaptation of the classic Hans Christian Anderson story. Wed. Jan. 30, 7 p.m. Thu. Jan. 31, 4 & 7 p.m. Sat. LaFene Theatre, Saint Mary's College, Moraga. 925-631-4381.

Run, Jump, Fly and Spin! Explore kinetic movement and the laws of motion by climbing, sailing, balancing, and spinning. through May 5. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. free with museum admission. Lawrence Hall of Science, 1 Centennial Dr., Berkeley. 510-642-5133. Lawrencehallofscience.org.

Video Game Programming for Kids A class for kids over age ten to learn how to program create simple games, and then game development class. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, free. The presidio of Art and Digital Entertainment, 3111 18th St. preposit TheMADE.org.

PETS

Dog Park Greeting This will be a station for dog lovers and Lake Merritt stakeholders to promote the proposed dog park proposal create the first round of plans, and offer Dog Biologist, to use new proposal. Mon. Jan. 28, 4:30-6:30 p.m. free proposal Park Garden Center 666 Bellevue Ave. Oakland.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

"We are Family: Real Faith, Real Family in the Real World" This conference will bring together scholars and faith leaders who founded a leader what family means in a modern historical context within American society. Jan. 25-26, 5 p.m.-8 p.m., & 10% of door program, $10 for each keynote lecture. Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave. Berkeley. 510-849-8256. PSR.edu.

Siloam Celebration Celebrates the birth of the Siloam Methodist with talks in English, cultural shows, soft shooting, and a free dinner. Sat., Jan. 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m. free. Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, 2433 Prospect St., Oakland. 510-548-8842. ICCNC.org.

Solemn Drumming With drum Meditation for happiness. Last Friday of every month, 1:30-3:30 p.m. free. Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center, 1317 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 510-525-5054. Ashkenaz.com.

Women Celebrations Celebrates the birth of the Siloam Methodist with talks in English, cultural shows, soft shooting, and a free dinner. Sat., Jan. 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m. free. Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, 2433 Prospect St., Oakland. 510-548-8842. ICCNC.org.

Yiddish Conversation Circle Meets every other Sunday to practice conversational Yiddish. Sun. Jan. 27, 2-4 p.m. free. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

Yoga Nidra Guided Meditation Effet Gantt teaches kids in Vedic Wisdom and to make beats. Sat., Jan. 26, noon, $5-15. The Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment, 2100 Franklin St., Oakland. TheMADE.org.



PICKS

White Elephant Sale Preview

Thrive one thing down the days until the biggest and best running sale of the year might want to spare themselves the headache and show up for the Preview Sale on Sunday. It is, or at the event's 56,000-square-foot warehouse 1603 Lancaster St., Oakland). Early-bird admission snag treasures ordinary and extraordinary, including jewelry, clothing, furniture bric-a-brac, and more (enter a penny. Show up early to get first dibs on all the goods, avoid long lines, and enjoy an all-around pre-shopping experience that is guaranteed to make you a preview-sale convert. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., $15-20. 510-339-6800, or WhiteElephantSale.org. — *Azeen Ghorayshi*

Cheshire Rock Opera

When Lewis Carroll wrote *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* in 1865, he probably never guessed that 150 years later people would be staging parties in its image with outfits delight. Carroll's lure will run strong at the Oakland Metro Operahouse (630 3rd St., Oakland) from Friday, Jan. 25, when Alice's Wonderland will become a real-life party for the tenth year in a row. The evening will feature musical renditions of Carroll's work, local artists playing Alice-inspired warm furnishings, mosaic projects, an Alice costume and makeup competition, and a "saddest hat" competition. 8 p.m.-11:30 p.m. $10 in costume, $20 without. 510-763-1000 or OaklandMetro.org. — *A.G.*

SALES, SWAPS, PROMOTIONS, & FUNDRAISERS

The Alchemy Baby & Children's Sale Event Buy or sell everything from outgrown and gently used clothing, toys, books, games, baby & children's furniture and more. Sat., Jan. 26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. free. College of Alameda, 555 Atlantic Ave. preposit. 510-522-2201. Alameda.PeraltaCcd.edu.

Brazilian Soccer Arts Benefit & Silent Auction An evening of traditional Brazilian music, dance, and soccer performances & delicious dinner and a Brazil Silent Sat. Jan 26, 6-9 p.m. $10-20. Marquerite Senior Center, 4301 Salem St., Emeryville. 510-595-3730, ann.lamoreaux@ca.us/seniorcenter/

"Baja Vu" "Candy lovers" arts and crafts items auction. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Continues through Jan. 26, free. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 3001 Park St. Alameda, 510-523-8857. FrankBetteCenter.org.

Dinner for Path A screening of the entertainer take this bewildering life lifestyle Trade Cast out of the Earth Thu., Jan. 24, 1 p.m. $15. Grand Lake Theater 3200 Grand Ave. Oakland. 510-452-3556. RockandRollTrade.com.

Grandlake Path A screening of the entertainer take this bewildering life lifestyle Trade Cast out of the Earth Thu., Jan. 24, 1 p.m. $15. Grand Lake Theater 3200 Grand Ave. Oakland. 510-452-3556. RockandRollTrade.com.

Pride Golf Tourney Redwood Hill Regional Claim In the all day long golf event, golf teams and an adjust brakes, headsets, hubs, and other items, as well as how to use engines. Participants can bring their own gears. Sat. Jan. 21 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $150. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 510-521-4142. REI.com

Pride Golf Tourney Redwood Hill Regional Claim In the all day long golf event, golf teams and an adjust brakes, headsets, hubs, and other items, as well as how to use engines. Participants can bring their own gears. Sat. Jan. 21 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $150. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 510-521-4142. REI.com

SOCIAL EVENTS

Nerd Nite: East Bay #4, Beyoncé, Meditation and Tech Nerd Nite: The East Bay's lecture-a-palooza-lectures about the how-your-with a talk our collective response lover Cleaner Cohen of UC Berkeley, a geology talk by Andrew Pike and a short piece on Bitcoin and tech for the global good Mon., Jan. 28, 7 p.m. $8. The New Parkway Theater, 474 24th St., Oakland.

Widows/Widowers Grief Recovery Class and Support Group A safe place for sharing experiences of loss and grief, facilitate and understanding to the grieving Solemn and encouraging hope. Open to adults and widowers of all ages, no matter how long they are in their grief Tuesdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sundays through Mar. 24. free. First Presbyterian Church, 2484 Ellsworth St., Berkeley. 510-848-6242. FPCBerkeley.org.

More Listings Online

Find hundreds of up-to-date Arts listings at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

Boat Demo for Cycles of Thought Ride Beam is a benefit ride for the Ride Co Round, a Center for Change program that and given away more than 150 bikes to adults who lacked reliable transportation. This ride season will be a modest effort to fundraising, the ride from the piers and Oakes of Change. Food will be provided. RSVP by emailing Stevenson@CDCMgmt.com Wed. Jan. 30, 6-8 p.m. The Library 2289 International Blvd. Oakland. 510-536-6132. Chell Iwey Weekly rom.

Botanical Art through the Ages The Lushed will take you through the centuries focusing on events such as Renaissance and The Age of Exploration and famous botanical artists like Maria Sybilla Merian, Georg Ehret, and Pierre Joseph Redouté Thu., Jan. 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m. $15. University of California Botanical Branch, 200 Centennial Dr. Berkeley. 510-643-2755. botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu

Chest-Thursday Sailing Basics REI experts Hoodie and Tom will teach you the difference between backcountry, intermediate, and touring ski styles. Thu., Jan. 24 7-8:30 p.m. free. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 510-521-4142. REI.com

Pride Golf Tourney Redwood Hill Regional Claim In the all day long golf event, golf teams and an adjust brakes, headsets, hubs, and other items, as well as how to use engines. Participants can bring their own gears. Sat. Jan. 21 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $150. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 510-521-4142. REI.com

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

Solemn x Basketball vs. collective The Illinois take on the Buffalos. Fri. Jan. 25, 8 p.m. $5. Noah Pavilion, 65 Berkeley, Berkeley. 510-642-0580. Cal Bears.com/Facilities/Haas-Pavilion.html.

Solemn x Basketball vs. Utah The Cal Bears take on the Utah. Sat. Jan. 27 2 p.m. $5. Haas Pavilion, 65 Berkeley, Berkeley. 510-642-0580. Cal Bears.com/Facilities/Haas-Pavilion.html.

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 5allow 3rd St., Oakland CA 94607. Deadline is 10 days prior to the event date

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Mercury 20 ◎
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Oakopolis / The Moon ◎
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PHOTO ◎
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SLATE Contemporary ◎
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Rescue Ceramic Gallery ◎
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Shadravan's Art Gallery ◎
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Studio Quercus ◎
385 26th Street

Vessel Gallery ◎
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The Wall Gallery ◎
473 25th Street

Warehouse 416 ◎
416 26th Street

Farley's East ◉
33 Grand Avenue

Classic Cars West ◉
411 26th Street

Telegraph ◉
2318 Telegraph Avenue

UPTOWN SOUTH OF GRAND & DOWNTOWN

Awaken Café ◉
1429 Broadway

Betti Ono Gallery ◎
1427 Broadway

Pro Arts ◎
150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

Oaklandish ◉
1444 Broadway

OLD OAKLAND /POPUPHOOD:

Crown Nine Jewelers and Makers ◉
461A 9th Street

Marmon & Rose's Workshop ◉
461 9th Street

JACK LONDON DISTRICT:

Swarm Gallery ◎
560 2nd Street

Urban Legend Cellars ◉
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Information and Special Events:
OaklandArtMurmur.org/Calendar/Saturday_Stroll

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MUSEUMS & GALLERIES



Ursula Brookbank's "Lexicon Walt"

Search and Discover

Visitors explore Krowswork by flashlight to uncover women's objects redolent of another era

Ursula Brookbank's *SHE WORLD* is first a mode of presentation, second a collection of things. A viewer enters the back door of Krowswork to find the gallery, already slightly subterranean, transformed. Its white walls are covered with brown paper; the farther rooms are completely unlit and, owing to recent weather, it is ice cold. Someone from the gallery will hand you a small flashlight and the show is yours to explore — all to a crackling, old timey soundtrack by Emily Lacy.

The objects that appear (or, depending on where you cast your beam, don't appear) make up a menagerie of domestic trinkets and ephemera: crochets, yellowed newspaper clippings and old photos, the soles of dainty shoes, the occasional claw-y of brown hair. All of it clearly belonged to women few of whom probably remain.

In fact, this is the plunder of the many estate sales, flea markets, and odd shops that Brookbank has visited over the course of many years. The artist pursues this mode of acquisition with all the meticulousness and wonder of a ritual, drafting for each item a report detailing the significance of the item to its person or place from which it came. These plaster cone profiles, well like an archival manifest, monument or memorial, conjuring the rich worlds to which this clutter belonged.

As an exhibition tool, the flashlight is perhaps most famously associated with Expositions Internationale du Surréalisme of 1938, whose organizers André Breton and Paul Eluard, hoped the sudden illumination of works would maximize the viewer's immediate emotional responses to them.

SHE WORLD, the ghostly, surreal, and somewhat carnivalesque character of which should now be clear, seems to intend just the same in places. Take, for instance, the self-authored photographs that Brookbank includes throughout the exhibition. These dim portraits of women — this or bodies all but lost in confusions of limb, back, and hair — would be difficult to parse even in full lighting. Beneath the roving glare of a small flashlight, they are elusive tunnels through which one could dig endlessly.

More importantly, though, the flashlight brings every viewer into the piece as a performer. The performance, of course, being one of exploration, in effect ennobles the scattered items and objects to be found: not merely objects of loss — whether of their former owners or as Brookbank puts it, "of a world I've known that is rapidly disappearing." Thus, the show takes on an elegiac more than a funerary character.

For the value in this, we may turn to a quote by Flannery O'Connor found in one of the reports on Brookbank's archival wall. "At its best, one age is an age of searchers and discoverers, and at its worst, an age that has domesticated despair and learned to live with it happily."

SHE WORLD runs through February 9 at Krowswork (4480 23rd St., Oakland), 510-229-7035 or Krowswork.com.

— *Alex Blyman*

ART GALLERIES

Addison/Ullrich Immersive Val Rovtar: A satellite exhibit featuring mixed media works mapping the artist's physical locations and psychological and emotional spaces. Through Jan. 31. 2180 Milvia St., Berkeley. Rakia.org.

Aggregate Space. Biochemist Peter Nichols's exhibition culminating a prehistoric residency, featuring "repellent yet fascinating" fecund forms. Through Feb. 2. free. 801 West Grand Ave., Oakland. AggregateSpace.com

Anna Gallery Mostly Roses: Repaired and Repurposed: Paying tribute to the artistry and creativity shown by thrifting, as well as to the beauty of the imperfect. Mondays-Fridays, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Continues through Feb. 28. free. 2987 Collar St., Berkeley. 510-845-4040. AnnaGallery.com.

Bancroft Library, Hart Lab Rooms: Jewel Spaces and Dark Ken Featuring original Ansel Adams prints of early-20th century @ the University of California System in the 1960s. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Continues through Feb. 15. free. UC Berkeley, Berkeley. Bancroft.Berkeley.edu.

Berkeley Art Center WARREN, 2013: Before Sunrise. Highlights the wide range of work from Berkeley Art Center's community of artist members. Wednesdays-Sundays, 12-5 p.m. Continues through Jan. 27. free. 1275 Walnut St. (in the Live Oak Park), Berkeley. 510-644-6860. BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Berkeley Public Library, Rotrie Square: The Art of Family Traditions: Ray Anna artist Farrell Wahlrab's exhibition surveys and honors traditional Japanese paintings. Through Feb. 3. free. 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

Delano Mill Studios: Fall Wolf Moon: Featuring artwork @ guest and resident artists, a champagne bar, open artist studios throughout the building, and delicious local food carts. Fri., Jan. 25. 5-10 p.m. free. 1301 Calcot Place, Oakland.

Dianuka Contemporary Contemporary Immediacy: Featuring the work of Amy H. Ho and Cindy Cunningham Lake, using light as a primary medium to challenge limits of perception. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Jan. 24. free. ABK 23rd St., Oakland. 510-268-7694. DianukaContemporary.com.

Oakland, Rotrie Art Rotrie: Between Spaces: Surveying the physical and social environment that binds within the words of the artists working at Creative Growth. Opening reception on Jan. 17. 5-8pm. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Continues through Mar. 8. free. 355 24th St., Oakland. 510-836-2340. CreativeGrowth.org.

David Rotrie: Rotrie: Before California: With illustrations, and then, and murals by Laura Cunningham, exhibiting what California was like centuries ago. Through Jan. 30. 2750 Adeline Way, Berkeley. 510-8893-0300. BowerCenter.org.

Doe Library Main Area Brown: A Jewel for Before: An exhibit honoring the Science @ the modern environmental movement. Mondays-Fridays, Sundays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Mar. 31. free. UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley. 510-643-6130.

El Rotrie Community Rotrie: Jewel Watercolors: An exhibit of landscape paintings representing places the artist has lived or visited. Through Feb. 28. free. 2787 Mossville, El Cerrito. 510-559-7900.

Expressions Gallery, Love, Unity and Freedom A show of art and poetry through Mar. 15. free. 2033 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4636. ExpressionsGallery.org.

FAL Main Wall Things Works on paper by Molly Segal. Through Jan. 31. free. 4519 24th St., Rotrie. FALLMainLand.com.

Rotrie: Hotel Cafe "Nights, Flowers, Fashion, & Rotrie: A rich retrospective of the photographs of Gerry Fravotti, featuring his golden silver prints and Rotrie photographs. Through Jan. 31. 6 a.m.-7 p.m. free. 1598 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-9230.

Johnson Projects: "Painted Path" Featuring work by Hollis O'Brien, Andrew Spence, and Tamara Spence. Opening reception Friday, Jan. 11, 5-8pm. Jan. 24-Mar. 16. free. 2388 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-3148. JohnsonProjects.com

Joyce Gordon Gallery The Dichotomy of Art An attempt @ examine the interdisciplinary practices among artists, not just @ their intermingled/de artistic media but

PICKS

Figuration

Fri 2/1—nature clothing by unique mail gallery Loaded (full disclosure: The Exposure is a co-founder of the a pop-up space) brings together three artists whose work prominently engages with the human figure. Urban Bushy John Felix Arnold III and Jaymon Swinson each delight in the form of this inconsistently occasional subject, accentuating its shapes and contours while also pushing it into ever more amorphous modes of representation. Body borrowing from European art history as well as from contemporary culture renders her subjects as mythological as they are fetishistic. Cellphones and nail liquor make their way into her sprawling, baroque illustrations. Arnold, for his part, describes his super heroic figures using the brash hyperactive, and cartoon-heavy language of the graphic novel.



Swinson, while eschewing the more direct pictorial approaches of his co-exhibitors, likewise presents a universe of ample visual noise — here in the form of jellied compositions blasted with scrawled text and vivid paint drips. Illustrative figuration seems but the loose frequency for those artists, who are above all concerned with combining up volume. *Figuration* runs through January 30 at Loaded (3900 2nd St., Oakland). 510-842-3474 or Facebook.com/Loaded. *Alex Bigman*

4200 ADMC, MADArt.org.

PHOTO: PHOTO Gallery, Artists Exhibit Featuring selected images from Adrienne Outlands, Alison Taggart-Barend, Anthony Redpath, Ari Sulgenor, Cary Lane, Charles Anastine, Hamid Dinan, Jan Cantro, Judy Dater, Karen Klaus, Rosalie Sandra, Susannah Hays, and more. Fridays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Feb. 2. free. 972 25th St., Richmond. 510-419-0443, PHOTOgallery.com.

Pro Arts Gallery PROJECT: Judy Levitt Featuring work by the Oakland artist using Parisian surplus, hand-painted collage papers, fabric, and found import. Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Feb. 22. free. **"Black Feet: Recent Work by Ora Green Here.** Featuring works by new media Pro artist. Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Feb. 22. free. 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361. ProArtsGallery.org.

Richmond Art Center Book Club Here Now! An exhibition featuring Bay Area art, with "examining the pursuit of knowledge. Community reception Friday, Feb. 8 from 6-9pm. Through Feb. 24. free. 2513 Bonanza Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6505. RichmondArt.org.

Rockwood Art Center "The Art of Living Green" The 17th Annual Bay Area Black artists Exhibition. Artists' receptions on Sat., Feb. 9 2-5 p.m. Artists panel discussion on Feb. 8 7-9 p.m. and Feb. 16. 12-2 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Feb. 9 free. **"Color, Portrait of a Revolution"** A solo exhibited, of Color Artist Artcore Cabal Hernandez. Wednesdays-Saturdays 11 a.m. 5 p.m. Continues through Mar 2. free. **"Take It On the Run"** Art from Hilda Rotshtein, in the Community Gallery Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m. 5 p.m. Continues through Mar 2. free. 1540 Bonanza Ave., Berkeley. 510-620-6772. theRockwood.org.

Rotunda Gallery, Lender Smith The artist's newest ceramic works. Through Jan. 25. free. 1021 Broadway, Oakland.

Royal Nonesuch Gallery 3 Room in 3 Weeks: Jackie Ito + Shannon Rankin Story exhibitions curated by author Ito and Rankin beginning with a solo show then a two-person and a three-person show. Each of the three openings will be on a Friday followed by one weekend of gallery hours for each show. Through Jan. 27 free. 4323 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 415-606-3648. RoyalNonesuch.wordpress.com.

Rowena Lee Gallery Oakland, Gender Sculptural works using unconventional materials to explore the musical themes of life. Through Jan. 31 free. 2611 Pearl Street, Suite 310, San Francisco.

SLATE contemporary, Intersections, New editions of Slate Introducing mixed media work by Saba Pasdar, Alicia Tinsdale, and Daniella Wood. Openings by Painting Intersections Jan. 24 6-8pm. Thursdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Feb. 23 free. 972 25th St., Oakland. 510-777-6609. SlateContemporary.com.

Smoke Downtown, Just Add Water A survey of Bay Area artists who use water/moisture media on paper. Saturdays-Sundays. Continues through Feb. 10 free. 365 25th St., Oakland. 510-452-4940. StudioOverHill.com.

Solomi Studios + Gallery RE/MEMBRANCE Albert Santiago's site-specific installation, a sculptural hut explores the balance. Opening Exhibitions, through Feb. 28 free. **Andrew Washburn, Eric Raul Gresh, and Sam Oakland** Part of SOLOMI SALON a three-week musical program featuring the evenings of radical and experimental sound, and image-making by local musicians, performers, and artists. Wed. Jan. 30, 8 p.m. $10/15. **X v. Y for Music of Albert Ayler** Part of SOLOMI SALON, a three-week musical program featuring the evenings of radical and experimental sound, and image-making by local musicians performers and artists. Wed. Jan 30, 8 p.m. $10/15. 568 2nd St. Oakland. 510-418-1197. SomeGallery.com.

Trayvick Contemporary, Intrinsic An exhibition of recent works by Bay Area artist Shonna Sumner Mackin. Through Mar. 9 free. **Intrinsic** A new exhibit of Bay Area artist Sandi Smith's sculptures, distilled objects in her most basic forms using cardboard as a medium. Through Mar. 9 free. 1951 Cedar Ave. Berkeley. 510-527-14 trayvick.com

University of California Botanical Garden, "Plants Illustrated" Includes historic artworks in watercolor, graphite, colored pencil, and pen and ink, inviting visitors to explore the many ways, texts, forms, and processes unique to botanical and art and scientific illustration. Through Feb. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. free with garden admission. 200 Centennial Dr. Berkeley. 510-643-2755. botanicalGarden.Berkeley.edu

Uptown Patrons Saturday Socials A weekly component of Art Murmur but with fewer exhibitions and more focus on the galleries. Visit OaklandArtMurmur.org for a full list of participating Oakland galleries. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. 19th St. at Telegraph Ave. Oakland.

Vessel Gallery, "Re/Surfaces Paintings by Sanjay Vora and sculptures by Nancy Genn. Tuesday-Wednesday-Jan. 24 6:30-8pm. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues Through Feb. 23 free 471 25th St. Oakland

The Wall Gallery, Black Galaxy Friday, Bamboos, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Feb 27 473 25th St. Oakland. 510-268-9412. ThenWallGallery.blogspot.com

Warehouse RED, Wirehead, ALL TRUE Retrospective A retrospective of all of the gallery's 2012 exhibitions. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. Continues Through Jan. 26. free. 456 26th St., Oakland. 510-922-1053. WarehouseRED.com

Welch Maker Gallery, "Ink" Showcasing artworks by the Detainment of An Painter Mark White of 2009 Recreation Jan. 26, 4-7pm. Through Feb. 8 free 1 Kaiser Hall, Berkeley. 510-643-7582.

MUSEUMS

BAM/PFA, abolitionist Pilgrimage Journey to the Land of Jasmin Sculptures and paintings from Iraq. Through June 30 **Himalayan Pilgrimage: Sacred Space** Explores the theme of Sacred Space with a panel large mandala paintings and select one of Rubin's Tibetan-Buddhist. Continues Through May 26. $10 free for UC Berkeley students. **The Reading Room** Start by The Reading Room Pairing gallery hours. Enjoy a comfortable reading area listen of recordings of selected poets, and view gallery-drawn prints and original works on paper created by George Saltzberman in collaboration with poets Kenneth Rexroth, Bill Bolland, and Lewis MacAdams. Continues through May 11 free **"Silence" Ruhnke** by Land Cage's groundbreaking 1952 musical composition 4'33" and the 100th anniversary of the composer's birth, "Silence" considers the Oakland of sound as both subject and medium in painting and contemporary art and Bias Starring Jan. 30 Continues through Apr 28, $10. **Rudolf de Crignis MATRIX 245** MATRIX 245: Rudolf de Crignis and Solo museum exhibition of the Artist Studies brings together Resident paintings and a series of graphite works on paper. Through Feb 10 free. Starting Jan. 30 Continues through May 5. $10 **Facing Two Directions: A Japanese Painted Landscape Tradition** The art of 17 Pacific early Shikaki Hyakusen Starting Jan. 30 Continues through Mar 24. $10. 2626 Bancroft, Why Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.berkeley.edu

Oakland, Oakland, or California, Playing With Fire Celebrating the 50-year-an inventory of the studio glass movement works from over twenty renowned California artists. Wednesdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues Through Mar. 24 $12. Work's Happening, Saddressing? Led by OMCA members and Jones-Mills State History Professors Lee Simpson Oakland, Bookabed component Oakland, lives on the importance the Scientific and American issues are to their region. Continues through Jan. 27 $6.50-8pm. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues Through Feb. 23 free 471 25th St. Oakland

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OMCA, Oakland Museum of California Photography Series

SUBURBAN DREAMS

Beth Yarnelle Edwards

January 19 – June 30, 2013

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Beth Yarnelle Edwards © in 1997

museumca.org

OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CA

THEATER+DANCE

The Return of the Comics

The 12th annual SF Sketchfest reinvents the bad, tributes the good, and invents the original

Se Bad It s Good has become a genre unto itself. Making fun of easy targets never fails to entertain, which is why plinking the worst dresses is often the best part of the Oscars. It's also why a few beers can turn a screening of *Xanden* into a delightful evening of entertainment. And it s why Thn Dark Knsm n weekly fad Movin Night — which involves rubbing and derailing horrible flicks — remains popular. Heck, it even explains the existence of the curmudgeonly geezers in the balcony in *Thn Muppets*.

And it s (onn reason) why ondiences adore SF Sktnchfest, the annual comedy festival that orrives in Jonnuvr to help us get in touch with our edge oftm thn holidav sensnn. In the twelve years Sketchfest has been around, thn festival has grown expance hally. This year it ucludes more than 100 events in 26 venues over 18 days (nnfortunately there are no East Bay performances). It has spawned adjunct events like The Barbary comedy nmves of last year s Outsidn Lands festival and its 'Twas thn Night Before Sktnkfest at Thn Castro Theatre last month.

This Thn sday the festtvl kicks off with thn sarcastic musings of Night of thn Shorts IV. Refreens on Patrol Presented by thn bruce bethke! *Mystery Science Theater 3000* — a TV show from thn Nlnetses in which sarcastn robots riffed on lausy films — thn event will feature heckled



Caine Bw-ksle-t and Fed An-s-t appear January 30

educational footage and public service announcements from bygone eras. Special guests include kristen Schaal of *30 Rock*, Kevin McDonald of *Kids in the Hall*, and Sketchfest founders Colin Stretton and Janet Varney.

Another highlight of thn festival is Celebrity Autobiography (February 9 at Marines Memorial Theatre), in which comics read earnestly from celebrities' memoirs. Bnet Reynolds, Ivana Trump, Mr. T, and Vanna White are some of the celebrity-authors who have been mercilessly monologued in this blockbuster series.

Yes. The ironic re-contextualization of junky material is a swell part of thn festival. But with nighteen days of comedy there s also lots of smart wit. One of my favorite smarty-pants is John Hodgman, thn "resident expert" of *Thn Daily Show*. Hodgman — author of *The Areas of My Expertise* (a book of invented trivia and completely fake facts) will weigh in on real life issues during *Judge John Hodgman LIVE* (January 25 at the Marines Memorial Theatre). Also highbrow (but mainly silly) is Thn Improvised Shakespeare Company, which creates plays on the spot using the language and themes of William Shakespeare (Jnnuary 30 and 31 at the Eureka Theatre).

SF Sketchfest also has a long tradition of honoring comedy classics. This year, organizers will pay tribute to *Portlandia* in a conversation with show creators Fred Armisen, Carrie Brownstein, and Jonathon Krisel (January 30 at Hasbol Thnatre) and to Airplane! at thn Rexsn Theatre. Thn festival will screen *Animal House* in light of that movin s 35th anniversary (yes, it s been that long).

Another performance that reinvents an old classn is Moya Rndolph s take on the musn of Prince. Thn former *Saturday Night Live* star and Berkeley raised Gretchen Liebnrum will perform in their Prionn tribnn band Princess at Yoshi s on February 8. And while this female interpretation of the musn of Prance may sound treme, Rudolph swears she s a huge fan. And nhn has a follin voice.

SF Sketchfest runs January 24 through February 9 at venues in San Francisco. For more info on performances and showtimes go to SFSketchfest.com.

— Erika Milvy

COMEDY

The Last Laugh With Samuson Samuson and various writers. Fridays, Saturdays, 10:30 p.m. $8-$10. The Last Laugh, 3rd floor, Pan Theater, 2135 Broadway, Oakland. 415-241-1464. thelastlaugh.com

Laugh n' Play Antmprnv about local Mr. Rndrop comics, with treats, by DJ Vnodan and food and drink specials. Fmnth t nnd second Thursday of every month. 8-11 p.m. 51C Club Annex, 1018 3rd St., Oakland

Laymor Shmmy Al nd Spangelman about around a half-dozen Say Area "Mnlanie Jans," food available from Fleetwnhugger food truck. Mondays, 8:30-10 p.m. free. The Layover, 1017 Franklin St., Oakland. 510-834-1572. OaklandLayover.com.

Open Mic Comedy A weekly about for both veteran and up-and-coming comedians. Sundays, 6 p.m. one-hnnr minimum, Centennial Club, 1538 17th St., Oakland. 510-847-1413, CentennialClub.org/events

Phil Addison Also featuring Pete Jabnna. Sat., Jan. 26, 8 p.m. $10. Englnnder Sports Pub, 101 Franklin St., San Leandro. 510-357-3071. EnglandersPub.com

Standing Comedy Open-mic comedy night hosted by Gil Ritchnson. 8:30-10:30 p.m. Thursdays, 6:30-8 p.m. free. Stork Club, 2330 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-444-8174. StorkClubOakland.com.

Sunday Night Variety Show and Poetry Hosted by LeRoy Stanfield Jr. Ages 21 and up. Sundays, 8 p.m. GalleryInMotions.com. Island Paradise Club, 1436 Webster St., Alameda. 510-865-3225. IslandParadiseClub.com

The Center Story With weekly improv comedy. Additional show openings every other Saturday. 8 p.m. $10-$12. Dan Treiber, 2135 Broadway, Oakland. 415-291-1641. PsychDrama.com

Wednesday Switch Comedy Karaoke Jam Night hosted by Mike Spangelman. Wednesdays, 6:730 p.m., free. The Marsh Ann Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-0981. TheMarsh.org.

DANCE-PERFORMANCE

SF Ballet 2013 Berkeley Night Gala Thu., Jan. 24, 8 p.m. Each seat $0 to $1,500. War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco. 415-621-6600. SFOpera.com.

LIVE VARIETY

TGIF Featuring "famed mentalist, Salesman Roswell" giving mind-reading demonstrations, as well as displaying "unique physical abilities." Fridays, 6-7:30 p.m. Continues through Jan. 25. free. The Marsh Ann Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-0981. TheMarsh.org.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

ADD 1012: The Many Incarnations Of Jane Jane The Marsh Berkeley Addition performances of Renee Kaufman's critically acclaimed new play about the beginning of the Berkeley civic revolution. Saturdays, Sundays, Continues through Feb. 17. $15-35. The Marsh Ann Center, 2120 Kittano Way, Berkeley. 510-704-0981. TheMarsh.org.

Expanding Suites A comedy about a young couple's difficulties in commuting and the broadly comic characters they encounter along the way in the

fanciful realm of the Bay Area's Housing and Rent Control Boards. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sun. Jan. 27, 2 p.m. Sat., Feb. 2, 2 p.m. Sun., Feb. 10, 2 p.m. Continues through Feb. 23. $22. Manzanita Playhouse, 108 Park Pl., Richmond. 510-215-4824. Manzanita.org.

Out of Lucidity Two puppets shoot together to work out a fight. Addison their shadows in a Addition fashion. Sundays by Sue Ying. Starting Jan. 25. Sundays, 2 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Feb. 17. $21-21. Addison Playhouse, 1406 High St., Alameda. 510-523-1533. Altarena.org.

Sleepy Man, Pierre Gosset and Temple of Accumulated Error Mary Emily recounts his memories. Sundays, 2 p.m. Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Feb. 10. $15-20. The Marsh Ann Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-0981. TheMarsh.org.

An Iran Adapted from Homer by Dave Anderson and Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare. Through Nov. 18. Check online for show times and prices. Tuesdays-Sundays. 534-39 Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-64-2949. BerkeleyRep.org.

A Midsummer Night's Dance Berkeley Public Library presents the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival as they present the young company's presentation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Sat. Jan. 26, 2 p.m. free. Berkeley Public Library, Central Theater, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org

Our Practical Heaven Written and directed by Berkeley Clarence. *Our Practical Heaven* tells the story of three generations of family gathering over three holidays. Jan. 25-Mar. 3. $12-50. Aurora Theater, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-843-4822. AuroraTheater.org.

RENT Based loosely on Puccini's *La Bohème*, Rent tells the story of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side in the thriving days of Reformin Alphabet City. Wednesdays, 2 p.m. Saturdays, 2 & 8 p.m. Additional showings Feb. 16, 17th-23, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Addison Ave., Palo Alto. 925-943-1287. Pleasantonsandfoundation.org.

Room to Rise **The Berkeley Jazz Ballet Experimental Film Festival** Posting the mundanes of what theatre can be. This year's festival features three new works (Experiments written and directed by Sean Sanders. Running by Tonka Gallo. Salimmerders by Real Kaufmann) and two new "Rise Remasters" (Odd Real Jobs by Alfred Barry. In a new translation by Rob Melrose. Insect Play by the Capek brothers, in a new translation by Bennett Fisher) in staged read ngs. Through Feb. 9. $20. $15 for 5-play festival pass. Cutting Ball Theater, 277 Sutter St., San Francisco. 800-838-3006. CuttingBall.com.

Sole Heroine East Bay Center for the Performing Arts absolute staged reading of

Sally Hacker, a play by Keith Josef Adkins about Addison Pendergrass, a free man of color in Kentucky circa 1843. Fri. Jan. 25, 8 p.m. free. Melrose Hardsberry Theater, 620 Sutter St., San Francisco. 415-474-8800. LHSSF.org.

Tell It on Tuesday Storytelling, info performance and live about no one

single with a rotating cast of performers. Last Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m., $8-$10. The Marsh Ann Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-0981. TheMarsh.org.

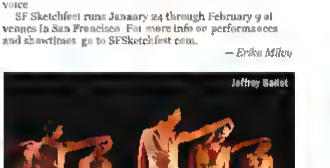
The Wild Bride Berkeley and Melrose by Emma Rice. *The Wild Bride* is a grown-up fairy tale that Gerber a girl's

journey through a dense wooded land. Starting Jan. 26, Sundays, 2 & 7 p.m. Saturdays, 2 & 8 p.m., Wednesdays, 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through Feb. 17. $11.50-89. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-647-2949. BerkeleyRep.org. — *Erika Milvy*

PICKS

Jeffrey Ballet

The first-love company t ripped it is b ration t ri to tour the Soviet Union and ally to appea r in the cover of Tin c Chicago s Jeffrey Ballet nave wielded profound cultural sgnificence. Thn American treasure is enjoying n contemporary renaissnnce nnder the artistic direction of former San Francisco Ballet principal Ashley Wheater. Making its first appearance since 2007, the Jeffrey returns to Zellerbach Hall (Betterst Wny at Dne s St., Berkeley) on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 26-27, with a program linking its heritage and its future. Edward Lung's *Age of Innocence* an exploration of sexual expression set to music by Philip Glass and Thomas New; and Christopher Wheeldon s *After the Rain* with sensual duets on an evocative Arvo Part score; and *The Green Table*, an almost masterpiece created by Kurt Jooss in 1932 and first presented in the US in 1967 by, you guessed it, the Jeffrey. Sat 8 p.m. Sun 3 p.m. $30-$92. 510-642-9988 or CalPerformances.org — *Claudia Bauer*



Jeffrey Ballet

Troublemaker

Dan Lefranc zmy and "all pal comedy *Troublemaker — The Freakin Kick-A Adventures of Bradley Rostright* is a free-action comic book that follows the extraordinary hyped-up hijinks of twelve-year-old rebel n superhero wannabe whose powers exist only in his fantasy world. Bradley and his pals are a Scooby Doo-type gang of DIY justice avengers, and the dynamic penciled weavns in and out of his overactive imagination (think *Calvin n d Hobbes*). LeFranc's

midward tween heroes and risky rich villa nnalns reveal the amatem exploits of Auntie Powers and Dr. Evil. In building a kids-only universe, LeFrance constructs no original and preposterous lemms of slang, kid-smarts and dressing-downs that is the juicy center of this sweet land a hi snn dotmnall parade. In the super-cool kid power of invention. Through February 11 at Berkeley Rep (2025 Addison St.). Tickets: $20-$77. 510-647-2949 or BerkeleyRep.org. — *Erika Milvy*

More Listings Online

Get nfe nhout dozens more theatrical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

LECTURES&LIT

LECTURES

Amy Wilentz: "A Book: Puna, Haiti" Wilentz discusses post-earthquake Haiti. Introduced by Adam Hochschild. Thu., Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., $7-12. Williams Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley, 510-848-3227. RSVP@clubfed.org.

"The Art and Craft of Tsunami" Kyle Cherelle discusses his role as the mastermind of the opening sequence with an illustrator's talk on title design. Tuesday by a Q&A with the audience. Followed by a screening of *Spirited Away*. Jan. 29, 8 p.m. $10. BAMPFA, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

Kenneth Kann and Jan Haaparanta Kenneth Kann discuss *Bystanders and Christian Survivors: The Story of a California Jewish Community in conversation* Jan Haaparanta, discuss of *The Life of a Jewish Radical*. Fri. Jan. 25, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-7800. Berkeley-CityClub.com

"A Landscape Flex" The Sheet Gallery Center's fall Art/Arc features artist Laura Cunningham in conversation with Ryan Phelan of the Long New Financial Building, exploring the theme of changing Western landscapes. Wed. Jan. 30, 5:30-9 p.m. Fire Street Design Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-898-0090, RowenCenter.org.

CHICA Talk & Lafayette Library Joan Gallano, Museum of California Historical Curator, discusses art connection with glass artists Mary Wells at Michelle Knox for a discussion on the art of glass. Thu. Jan. 24, 7:45-9 p.m. 65 Lafayette Library, 852 Mongia Rd., Lafayette, 925-283-3872, LafayetteFriends.org.

Opera in the Library Soprano Soprano Mark Sarachanov Saturday: West Edge Opera's upcoming production *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*. Thu. Jan. 29, 12:15 p.m. Free. Berkeley Public Library Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley, 510-981-6100. Berkeley PublicLibrary.org.

Radical Ideas & Relationship Education Wendy-O Matik is the director of *Poetry and Relationships: Backstory for Responsible Open Relationships*, a Retreat Without of love and relationships. Another the Somerset paradigm of monogamy. Sun. Jan. 27, 2 p.m. $20. Looking Glass Photo, 2349 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-6868. LookingGlassPhoto.com.

Regional Botanical Botanical Meetings Heather White, award-winning botanist and Oakland scientific officer of Calera, will Botanical the rapidly changing field of geometric conditions. Thu. Jan. 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. free. Stanley Hall, UC Berkeley, Berkeley.

Sonja Lyubomirsky Sonja Lyubomirsky's research-based Anathema and its five opportunity in life's Brazilian moments. Tue., Jan. 29, 7:30-9:30 p.m. free. Wheeler Hall, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley, 510-848-3227. HiHighEdHub.org.

Uniting Voices A dialogue Romantic politicians, educators, Anathema historians and artists on how arts and cultural work can alleviate the emergence homophobia around the country. Thu., Jan. 24, 6:30-8 p.m. free. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Bancroft Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

"Zero Dark Thirty, or How a People Lose Their Humanity" Richard Abbott and Introduction with Larry Everest, reporter for Rochester newspaper and theme of St. Pancr. and Empire Iran and the U.S. *Global Agenda*. Tue. Jan. 29, 7 p.m. free. Introduction Books, 2475 Channing Way, Berkeley. 510-848-1188. BookStore-Gateway.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

Poets' Anniversary White Pine Press Berkeley With readings by White Pine Press poets and translators Gary Young, Carolyn Caulfield, Meredith Quartermain, Andrew Schelling, and Anselma Silberg. With editor Dennis Maloney. Sat. Jan. 27 at 3 p.m., free. Subway & Bookstore, 5430 College Ave., Oakland. 510-653-9966. SubwayBooks.com

Adam Mansbach Adam Mansbach, the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *Go the F**k to Sleep*, visits from his new novel, *Rage is Back*. Mon. Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m. $5-12. The Great Jazz Center, 2128 Oxford Way, Berkeley. 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org

Art and Writers: Stanley Writer Carl Cohen leads a weekly writing and performance workshop designed to generate new writing and create a sustainable community of Bay Area writers. Mondays, 7-9:30 p.m. CarCreeks.com. Pre-25th Street Collective 477 29th St., Oakland. 510-384-1148. 25thStreetCollective.com.

Cheryl T. Grace William discussing his memoir *An Intimate Life: Sex, Love and My Journey as a Surrogate Parent*. Sat., Jan. 26 7 p.m. and Great Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St. Berkeley. 510-525-7777. BaseballCat.Berkeley.

Francisco X. Alarcón and Ernesto Alarcón Part of the Poetry Flash series. Thu. Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m. free. Mel's Diner, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-3667. MarinMarkets.com.

Joseph Lease and Street Gate Reading from both books of poetry. Wed. Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m., free. Mel's Diner, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-3667. MoonBooks.com.

Lisa D'Amour Fri., Jan. 25, 7 p.m. A Great Center. Plans for Books, 6120 Lakeside Ave., Oakland. 510-530-3211. GreatGoodPlans.IndieBound.com

Mary Blankey and Street Studio A poetry reading of their work, old and new. Sun., Jan. 27, 4 p.m. free. Mother Fire Art & Artifacts, 530 Dwight Way, Berkeley, 510-528-1291. MotherFireArts.com.

Oliver Sacks Reading from his new book, *The Amateur: A Journey to the Peoples Who Do It Some Prefer Thinking*. Thu. Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m. free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8222. MrsDalloways.com.

Orhan Pamuk Acclaimed Turkish Orhan Pamuk meets Man Drawn a gathered novel about the book for who and opens eight years on exile in Germany. Mon. Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m. free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., Albany.

Uniquely Yours: A Queer Wisdom Creative Writing Workshop Author Peggy Simmons leads a workshop for writers of all levels, experiences, and genres, ages 18 and up. Drop-ins welcome; long-term participation encouraged. 1 each Sunday of every month. 2-5:30 p.m., $1 $25. Crossroads-Breakfast.org. Rich Paper Station, Collective, 2215 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-238-9171. RSVP.Crossroads.com.

Street Writers Discussing his book, *5 Myths About Nuclear Weapons*. Thu. Jan. 24, 7 p.m. free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1091 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-525-7777. BookInc.net/Berkeley.

ZYZZYVA Stories Party The release party for the Summer 2013 issue features host contributors Jennifer Gilliss, John W. Evans, Andy Stewart, and E. Ethelbert Miller reading from their work. Fri., Jan. 25, 7 p.m. free. Subway & Bookstore, 5430 College Ave., Oakland. 510-653-9966. SubwayBookstore.com.

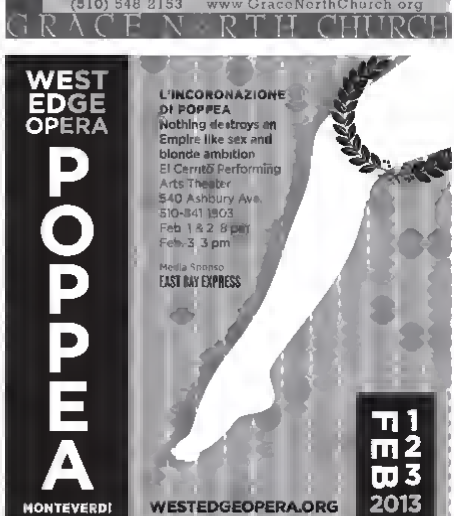
PUBLIC INTEREST

Artful Salon: "The Artist as a Small Business" Thinking of ways to support your artistic practice? Join the free of a small business owner. Come and network with grass artists and share questions, personal stories, advice and tips. Sat., Jan. 26, 11 a.m., free. Pro Arts Gallery, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361. ProArtsGallery.org.

SPOKEN WORD

Saturday Night Fantasy Free Bay Open Mic A monthly open mic theme by Hollie Kenley and Kenya Meryl. Last Saturday of every month, 7-9 p.m., and slides. Lounge, 3221 Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-652-4425. NoirLounge.com.





PICKS

John A Gillis

Part-time season many of us live in California is to be sure the wall-y. But in recent years, we've witnessed a number of calamities taking place on our sought-after shorelines. John R. Gillis, a historian who has taught at Rutgers, Stanford, Princeton, and UC Berkeley *Alone* in to explore the changing nature of and our obsession with, the coast in *The Human Shore: Seasonals in History*, a heartfelt, upbeat look at more than two-odd years of shoreline history. Gillis takes on hurricane boosh/rent real estate booms, the actual location of the Garden of Eden, the rise and fall of industrial ports, the draining and restoring of natural wetlands, and the introduction, evolution, and extinction of marine mammals. On Thursday Jan. 24 at University Press Books (2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley), 6 p.m., free. 510-548-0585 or UniversityPressBooks.com. — *Alison Peters*

Amy Wilentz

Award-winning, journalist and frequent Arts *Here There* contributor Amy Wilentz has been passionate about Haiti since first visiting the country in 1986 as a reporter in *Farewell, Fred Voodoo. A Letter from Haiti*. Wilentz chronicles the half-island nation's trials and tribulations, such as the devastating 2010 earthquake and the effects of the international relief effort that poured into the country in the aftermath. She gets to the heart of voodoo ceremonies and African influences, and dismantles the often negative clichés that surround Haitians. Ultimately, Wilentz paints a portrait of an ever-evolving country whose citizens face the



Photo: Courtesy

Arias challenging circumstances with courage and resilience, and which outsiders never want to leave. On Thursday Jan. 24, at Berkeley Hillside Club (2286 Cedar St., Berkeley) 7:30 p.m., 07-515-510-849-2087 or HillsideClub.org. — *A.P.*

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BOOKS

RAGE NEVER LEFT

Two years after a joke propelled him to the bestseller list, Berkeley's Adam Mansbach proves he belongs there with his excellent new "great American graffiti novel"

By Ellen Cushing

Rage Is Back is not, strictly speaking, a series book, to read. That's not necessarily to say it's difficult — its author Adam Mansbach is neither stupid nor cruel — but it runs at the exhausting, slottering pace of some of its most potent memento: a foot chase through an abandoned train yard, an asexual can being shaken vigorously, a "world-obliterating, world creating" drug trip through space and time administered by an Amazonian shaman. The books very first sentence is a full 129 words, a tangle of references to people and places the reader won't yet know and may have to read two or three times to fully understand. From there exposition comes in lurches and jags and self-referential asides.


Adam Mansbach.

Rage flirts with magical realism and short story openly acknowledges (and then briefly abandons) his unreliable narrator's populated, like many of Mansbach's books by eccentrics and assholes and outlaws and characters in the deepest throes of some pretty heavy-duty identity crises. Even the book's plot — which, in a nutshell, follows a group of old friends once at the top of the scene during graffiti's golden age, now aging and angry and in final reunion — is something of a risk. Graffiti is not only a wholly visual medium and thus one that's hard to bring to life on a page (though Mansbach does his best) it's also a subject that's shot through with issues of race and class and the law. *Rage*'s setting is an insular one, a world with its own tropes and terminology, a world that's not necessarily appreciated or understood by everyone — especially it's safe to argue, the kinds of people who attend lectures and read literary fiction in the forever.

Taken in context, the fact that Mansbach and his publisher are billing *Rage* as "the Great American Graffiti Novel" can be seen as a reference to the kind of braggadocio that alternately plagues and drives the book's characters, the impulse for shit-starting that inspires someone to write his own name seven feet high on a subway car in Krylon Hot Raspberry — or to the fact that *Rage* is probably the *only* great American graffiti novel. Either way it's a bold statement but then again Mansbach's a bold personality.

"I'd rather write a book that some people like and some people hate then a novel a lot of people are indifferent to," he told me subway train squealing in the background, in a recent phone interview during one of his many — and increasingly common — trips away from his Berkeley Hills home and off to the East Coast for book tour-related events. "Throughout my career I've never given much thought to audience or salability."

The irony here, of course, is that Mansbach is eminently demonstrably salable as an author, as the force behind 2011's unlikeliest bestseller — the "children's book for adults" *Go the Fuck to Sleep* — precisely because of his less agreeable tendencies. "People who know me, when that book came out were like … Adam's talking Adam's shit again, you know? But in this case, it tapped into the zeitgeist in this crazy way." Despite the fact that *Sleep* was on paper an undeniably weird sell — a tossed-off profanity-laden kids' book that was actually wildly inappropriate for kids distributed by a tiny publisher — even before its official release, it sold more than the three novels, graphic novel and book of poetry Mansbach had previously written combined. But if he's at all pissed about first cracking the bestseller list with a book that was sold at Urban Outfitters he's hiding it well — and Mansbach doesn't hide his feelings well. "I'd rather be the *Go the Fuck to Sleep* guy than not be," he said. "I would be an asshole if I said there was a huge downside to any of this."

Sleep was the kind of unanticipated, unexpected, overnight success any comfortable-but not famous writer dreams of the closest thing the book world has to a one-hit wonder. But it doesn't take an incredibly close reading to see that if a less jaded observer than a formal experiment with the same ideas Mansbach's always been fascinated by: parenthood, anger, identity, adolescence, and adulthood. (After all *Rage*'s central emotional conflict revolves around a complicated, ambivalent relationship between father and child if you think about it. *Sleep* does too.) "Complexity is a fascination of mine," Mansbach said. "Honesty and speaking from uncomfortable truths about characters with humanity and contradiction — those are a fascination of mine. I'm interested in paradox."

In *Sleep*'s that paradox in a simple if rarely spoken, one: The truth that as a parent that you'd be willing to get between your kid and a bullet without a second thought, but at the same time, that if she doesn't go (the fuck) to sleep within the next fifteen minutes you could quite possibly throw her through a window. In *Rage* it's broader — "balancing art and vandalism, fame and anonymity, beautifying and destroying a city." *Rage* uses graffiti as less a setting than a central character in and of itself. Mansbach loves the form too deeply to grant it anything less loves it so much his writing reads like graffiti looks — big, colorful dense, often profane occasionally impenetrable. But, like any great (or Great) novel — like *Sleep*, even — *Rage* is also vastly bigger and deeper and more valuable than the sum of its (many, moving) parts: not quite easy, but not quite meant to be. ●

Show Details
Adam Mansbach reads at The Marsh Berkeley (2120 Allston Way) on Monday Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m. $5 for students, $12 in advance, $18 at the door. $5 for students. BerkeleyArts.org

Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com



The house broth at Hot Pot House is insanely tasty Chas Dudley

HUMBLE BUT HOT

Ring in the Lunar New Year with a hot pot party — or keep the whole thing all to yourself

By Luke Tsai

I've read that the reason Chinese people eat hot pot during Lunar New Year is because the dish symbolizes prosperity. God knows, every little bit counts in this economy, but for me hot pot has always been the cuisine of the everyday, of spur-of-the-moment trips to the Asian supermarket and dinner parties hosted by tentative (or thrifty) home cooks — the simple pleasures of hot soup dueling chopsticks, and boisterous conversation.

Here in the East Bay, I've rarely sought out hot pot since so many of the restaurants skew toward Cantonese fare, which isn't known for hot pot in the same way that Taiwan or the northern and central Chinese provinces are. But a couple of recent discoveries in Oakland's Chinatown — just in time for the New Year — reminded me how great this cook-as-you-go style of eating can be especially on a chilly night.

For the uninitiated, a decent introduction to hot pot can be found at Cafe 88, a Hong Kong-style cafe tucked inside the Pacific Renaissance Plaza — one of my favorite cheap lunch spots where $5.50 will buy you a nice plate piled high with either of the most tender and meaty roast duck you'll find in Chinatown.

But we're here to talk hot pot, and a well-kept secret is that Cafe 88 has an individual-portion hot pot on the menu available during dinnertime. For $13, you get a choice of soup base — regular spicy, or satay/*shacha* — and a generous portion of raw meat and seafood (thinly sliced beef, chicken and fish head, then shrimp and a single oyster) plus tofu, rice noodles, wontons, and frozen beef balls. It's a lot of food.

Once your little sterno-burner-powered pot of soup comes to a boil, use the wire ladle that's provided to dip each piece of meat in — maybe thirty seconds for the beef, a little longer for the chicken and seafood. The stuff that won't suffer much from overcooking (the beef balls, the tofu) you can toss in all at once.

If you opt for the "regular" broth, as we did, the finished product won't have much flavor as you dunk each bite in *shacha* sauce, the Chinese barbecue sauce of savory-spicy blend of soybean oil, brill fish, and garlic. (True connoisseurs thicken their *shacha* with a raw egg, but that's not a practice I feel comfortable recommending if you don't know the provenance of said egg.)

In any case, I find the vegetables, not the meats, are the hallmark of great hot pot, and it's here that Cafe 88's version disappoints: nothing but iceberg lettuce. Anyway, this isn't hot pot that will blow your mind — but it's a way to hedge your bets if you aren't sure if you'll like hot pot or if you don't want to make it the focal point of your meal.

Serious hot pot eaters should head over to Hot Pot House, a new restaurant opened by the owners of Spices 3 across the street. Like Cafe 88, Hot Pot House has that elusive single-portion hot pot option, but also offers a more traditional communal hot pot dining experience — and a nicer, more spacious dining area to boot. A standard-size pot will serve anywhere from two to four people (more if you order a few add-ons).

What's daunting, for the novice, is the sheer number of choices. Start with six different soup bases — everything from the plain "house flavor" (a rich broth made from pork bones and chicken carcasses) to the fiery and aromatic Szechuan *mala* ("numbingly spicy") flavor to several versions that feature Chinese medicinal herbs (including the intriguingly named "Specious" flavor). We opted for the red and white" which allowed us to sample both of the first two options, each in its own compartment, for a yin yang effect.

You also need to decide what you want to cook, and for that the menu offers a whopping sixty-plus choices. A couple recommendations: Foochow fish balls stuffed with minced pork are delicious — and, to my knowledge, aren't available anywhere else in Oakland. And while "frozen tofu" sounds like an awful thing, when boiled it's wonderful — super spongy and absorbent, perfect for soaking up the flavor of the broth and the dipping sauces. (In addition to *shacha*, make sure you ask for the excellent house-made dipping sauce: a slightly pungent blend of *shacha*, hoisin, and fermented bean curd.)

Anyway, the easiest (and most budget-conscious) option is to pick from about a dozen pre-set combos, and then supplement with a couple of extra items. The beef or seafood hot pots are a safe bet; the "lucky" hot pot — which includes tripe, pork intestine, and cakes of pig's blood — will appeal to the adventurous. Our pick, the "village style" hot pot came with thick pieces of pork skin, fish balls, enoki mushrooms, shrimp, and the aforementioned frozen tofu. All of the combos also come with a platter of assorted vegetables that, by itself, includes Cafe 88's veggie selection out of the park.

Aside from hot pot, the must-order dish is an appetizer of wontons in red oil. These aren't as spicy as the surrounding pool of red chili oil suggests, but the sauce is spiked, deliciously, with a heavy dose of the unique numbing heat of Szechuan peppercorns.

Ultimately, the reason the hot pot at Hot Pot House is better than what you can easily replicate at home is because of the insanely tasty house broth, which you can keep on as you go along, or savor at the very end (with rice vermicelli if you've ordered it). That's the genius of hot pot, really. In the process of eating your meal, you slowly create this pot of soup that tastes better and better as the night wears on, as it takes on the sweetness of the carrots and napa cabbage and the fattiness of the meats.

Chances are you'll have plenty of soup left over — the stuff is generous about topping off your pot. You'll thank yourself for that fatty the next day. ●

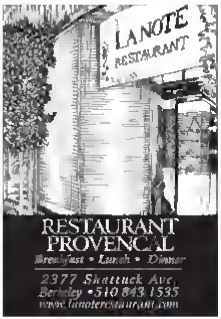
Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

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Hours: Daily, 8:30 a.m.–9 p.m.
Reservations not accepted
Cash only

Sample Menu
Individual Hot Pot $13
Roasted Duck over Rice $5.50

Hot Pot House
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Fri. 11 a.m.–midnight, Sat. 11:30 a.m.–midnight, Sun. 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m.
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Sample Menu
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WHAT THE FORK

THE SWEET BUSINESS OF SECOND CHANCES

Plus traditional Ethiopian coffee comes to Uptown Oakland

By Luke Tsai

Every morning, Sheila Young-Eberhart arrives at the 18,000-square-foot manufacturing facility for Richmond's Rubicon Bakery, punches the clock, and gets to work. She's the bakery's quality assurance manager — one of the last lines of defense in making sure every cupcake, marshmallow, and brownie leaves looking and tasting the way it's supposed to. By all accounts she's a model employee.

But before Young-Eberhart started her entry-level job in Rubicon's packaging department four years ago she was a drug addict who'd just completed a four-month stint in jail. She wanted to turn her life around but had few realistic employment prospects.

Rubicon Bakery lured her because that's what it does. Almost all of the company's employees are ex-cons, recovering drug addicts, and the recently homeless. Many of them are funneled in through the job-training services offered by Rubicon Programs, the Richmond-based nonprofit that founded the bakery in 1993. It's a company that has staked its entire business model on the idea that people deserve a second chance.

"Rubicon saved my life, literally. I don't know where I would be right now," Young-Eberhart said.

Her success is part of Rubicon Bakery's larger success story as a socially conscious business. In its twenty-year history, the bakery has gone from selling cakes out of a van to putting a whole line of baked goods and confections on the shelves of Andronico's and Whole Foods supermarkets throughout the Bay Area and beyond.

That success hasn't come easily, according to Andrew Stoloff, who bought the bakery from Rubicon Programs in November of 2009. At the time Stoloff said the bakery had grown beyond the point where the nonprofit was able to manage it effectively — it had a shoestring budget and a big staff.

When Stoloff came on, he hadn't run a bakery before — his background was as a restaurateur. But, though the learning curve was steep, he was convinced that the bakery could better achieve its social mission as a for-profit enterprise.

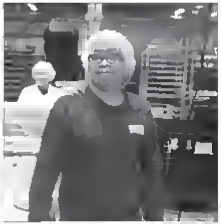
To wit: When it was run as a nonprofit the bakery never could have invested tens of thousands of dollars in buying new equipment when Whole Foods came knocking. As originally conceived, the bakers served as a job-training facility more than anything else. Now as a for-profit venture, the bakery provides full-time work to 85 employees. In addition, under the terms of Stoloff's deal with Rubicon Programs, a cut of the bakery's annual profits goes back to the nonprofit, a total of $70,000 over the past two years — considerably more than the bakery ever made when it was run as a nonprofit.

All it did, Stoloff believes the bakery can serve as a new hybrid model for social enterprises. By separating out the nonprofit organization from the business entity, both are able to thrive.

Stoloff said one of the advantages of taking a chance on people no one else will hire is that company loyalty is very high — the bakery experiences extremely low employee turnover.

Ultimately, then, the heart of Rubicon Bakery lies in the stories of people like Young-Eberhart, who said she loves coming to work each day. She's gone back to school, too, and expects to complete a bachelor's degree in psychology in two years.

As Stoloff put it, "We don't turn their lives around; they turn their lives around. We give them the chance to do it."



Luke Tsai
Sheila Young-Eberhart says her job saved her life

Ethiopian Coffee

Arhilo Coffee (435 Grand Avenue), the Uptown Oakland brick-and-mortar coffee shop whose Grand Lake Farmers Market stall (then called "Abbenna") What the Fork highlighted last summer, is finally open, after several months of permitting and construction delays. The cafe and its soft opening last Friday, January 18, and hours are tentatively set for 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Right now the menu consists only of coffee and tea, but owner Ambessie Assegued said he'll start rolling out a limited food menu as early as this week. Western-style pastries, salads and soups and a few Ethiopian items, too. Most of the food, with the exception of the pastries, will be made in house.

Opening a new cafe now is a bit of a risky gambit — Oakland has no shortage of coffee shops, and Arhilo's East 12th Street next door. But Assegued hopes there will be enough customers looking for something different.

They've aimed to create a place for coffee lovers to stay and linger. And while espresso drinks and quick serve coffee to go will be available, the focus is on coffee served the traditional Ethiopian way: a smooth, rich brew that's heated over an open flame and poured, unfiltered, out of the jug-shaped clay pot known as a jebeena.

Is there room for something like that in Oakland's crowded coffee scene? Here's hoping. ●

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

RESTAURANTS & CAFES

Chinese Restaurants in Oakland and Berkeley

Chef Lou's

404 8th St., Oakland, 510-893-3388. Table of four for dinner? Might take awhile. Chef Lou's is packed with families — big families, loud and happy and snarfing up noodles. This homey rough-around-the-edges Chinatown restaurant specializes in Cantonese seafood dishes like salt-and-pepper lobster and steamed rock cod, some of it straight from the tank, and succulent hot pots. $

Da Lian

1674 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-883-1883. Chef/owner Berli Zou grew up in Dalian, a megacity in the north of China fueled by lamb, wok-baked sesame bread, and serious garlic. Those things spark Zou's menu, too, especially lamb with Chinese pickled cabbage, an enormous soup that balances the yin of house-made pickles with the murky yang of lamb fat. Order carefully: While the chef's native Chinese fare catches fire, the bulk of his menu is neighborhood-takeout-grade Cantonese. $

Golden Lotus Vegetarian Restaurant

[illegible] St., Oakland, 510-893-6963. Though you'll find a lot of meat on the menu at Golden Lotus, every nugget of flesh is actually a skillful gluten facsimile. This Vietnamese and Chinese restaurant serves brightly flavored fresh, inexpensive, and strictly vegetarian fare. Many order the grilled "chicken," the Vietnamese noodle dishes, and the fish pot au feu, at lunch for quick-to-go combo plates. Golden Lotus is run by followers of Supreme Master Ching Hai, a Buddhist spiritual master and fashion designer. $

Gum Kuo

980 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-268-1288. Gum Kuo (whose doubles as a take-it barbecue-duck joint and restaurant, gets a new for dinner something, "If the charm of a food court and a hole in the wall. But folks come here for honey Cantonese food, especially late at night. You'll find noodles on most of the tables, along with steamed rice rolls, hot pots, and the house special clay-pot rice (it's on the back page in Chinese) stocked with Chinese sausage or chicken and mushrooms. And if you ask them slowly, the staff will help you pick out the good stuff. $

Imperial Tea Court

1411 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-548-8588. A one-page food menu and multipage tea menu reveal this multifaceted tea house of this exotic hideaway which is part restaurant, part interactive museum. High-quality tea is served gaiwan-style, in lidded cups; choose from a wide range of whites, greens, blacks, herbals, oolongs, pu'erhs, and more. Traditional teahouse food is served here as fresh and bright as what some barefoot hermit might whip up for a picnic on a windswept peak: fresh noodle and veggie seasonal produce, prepared almost masterfully with practically no oil, tasting like sunshine. $

Kirin

1709 Solano Ave., Berkeley 510-524-1877. One of the most elegantly appointed Chinese restaurants in the East Bay (copper-colored Kirin has northwestern tiles, stratospheric ceilings, and a glass-walled open kitchen. It focuses on Northern Chinese and Szechuan cuisine, so diners should see dumplings and buns, house-made noodles, and rich, spicy stir-fried entrées. $$

Legendary Palace

768 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-663-0188. Shiny and massive Legendary Palace wants to claim the title of Chinatown's swankiest restaurant. It comes close at dinner. The chef has a delicate touch with the superb Hong Kong–style seafood: much of it swimming until it gets ordered. The rest of the menu varies in quality but you'll generally have luck with the roast meats and hot pots. The daytime dim sum is good so long as you can dress the chaotic bustle and long waits. $–$$

Long Life Vegi House

2 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley 510-849-0272. The no-frills Chinese restaurant is not strictly vegetarian — the menu includes seafood dishes — but steamed whole fish and crispy scallops in a chile-garlic sauce — but you'll find plenty of veggies in the house, and the plates are big and cheap. Vegetarian dishes like the house-special green-bean-bell soup and bean curds keep are yummy. $

May Flower Chinese Restaurant

2134 University Ave., Berkeley 510-883-1738. Almost every dish in this place is packed with as much protein that you're primed to pop up from your chair and bike for a bout in San Leandro. It is that good, and you: It's a hole-in-the-wall. It is about to be your favorite hole-in-the-wall, because dim sum is served here all day, every day — and because its menu sports 199 separate items denoting a whirlwind tour of regional and culinary styles, from rock-cod clay pot to squash with dusk eggs to shrimp in lobster sauce to happy family tofu to dried bun stir-gourmet fook. And that's not counting the 42 lunch specials, which include such curios as ginger lamb, seaweed salad (as an entrée!), and lemon-grass pork chop. And that's not counting a separate 57-item vegetarian menu, of which we the menu's pages read only as far as faux-chicken drumsticks and faux-chicken wintermelon soup before swooning dead away. And that's not counting daily specials. Or desserts. $

Nature Vegetarian Restaurant

[illegible] St., Oakland, 510-238-8588. The Chinese have a long and comfortable history of mushroom consumption, harboring a book 10 feet saved to shiitake-growing at Buddhist temples a thousand years ago. And slices craving vegetarian versions of their favorite Chinese dishes would be hard-pressed to find a better option than Nature Vegetarian Restaurant, where chef-owner Jian Liu, a devout Buddhist himself, makes all of the restaurant's gluten- and soy-based meat substitutes in-house. Menu highlights include the spicy-calamity soupy sesame "chicken" and stuffed eggplant (bell pepper–fried shaper! Like a whole fish, and carved to look it. During off-peak hours, vegetarian versions of traditional dim sum items (fried pork buns, shu mai, etc.) are served. The dining room is clean and pleasant, and service is polite and reasonably English-friendly. $–$$

Restaurant Peony

488 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-286-8866. The [illegible]ors of Hong Kong are served with the [illegible]ache at this Oakland Chinatown purveyor of abalone soup, Muslim lamb with scallions and cardamom, chicken with double-fried vermicelli, tableside-steamed duck, steamed seafood fresh from the fish tank, and other delicacies. Lunchtime dim sums is not the performance aside, but it is very popular. Large, elegant setting, service ranges from overbearing to nonexistent. $$$$

Shan Dong

326 10th St., Oakland, 510-839-2799. One of the few

Full Reviews Online

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RECENTLY REVIEWED

PieTisserie

444 Oak St., Oakland, 510-839-7437. Jaymie St. Jean's amazing seasonal pies now have a permanent home in the Jack London district. In a space shared with Nido, the farm-to-table Mexican restaurant. The pies are sold whole by the slice, and in individual-size mini pies. Yes, Jean makes the thinnest, crispest all-butter crust we've ever had the pleasure to try and, as far as we can tell, there isn't a cod pie on the menu. If you aren't sure what to get, any of the cream pies are a good bet — none better than the holiday-special chocolate peppermint cream, smooth, rich chocolate infused with a blast of mint, like a sophisticated Grasshopper milkshake. Meanwhile, coffee and savory (egg-based) breakfast pies are available Tuesday through Friday from 8 to 10 a.m. $

Nido

444 Oak St., Oakland, 510-444-8456. Nido can feel like a mishmash of literally every single Bay Area dining trend of the moment: furniture made from reclaimed materials, Mexican food reinterpreted through the prism of local ingredients, and the look — with in-tenant PieTisserie's bright red pie window greeting you as you walk in — of a permanent pop-up. Some of it feels a wee bit precious at times, but the important thing is that the food is tasty and lacking in pretension. Highlights include the *Pollo Sabado* (half of a succulent spice-rubbed roast chicken), the *Ojitos de Puerco* (a one-pot meal with a rotating meat selection), the thick, handmade tortillas, and the cool, refreshing chips and salsa bar. $8-$35

Grand Lake Kitchen

576 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-922-9581. Grand Lake is a stone's throw from Lake Merritt, Grand Lake Kitchen defies easy categorization. It isn't a traditional Jewish deli. It isn't one of those places where every single item is made from scratch in-house. Nevertheless, the place fills at least three or four different niches for a neighborhood that didn't have a great sandwich shop, or a cozy diner, or a posh grocery store carrying obscure sodas and sparse hitty food. The house-made pickles are great, and the fish sauce is studded with seasonal, mostly vegetarian sides. But Grand Lake Kitchen's biggest selling point is its sandwiches: a delicious riff on Italian porchetta; a better-than-solid Cuban; and best of all, the "Oyako" (an open-face egg salad sandwich topped with thin shards of crispy chicken skin. $8

Bortavella Coffee & Wine Bar

1601 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-524-8473. Taking up residence in Cafe Fanny's old digs, Bortavella Coffee & Wine Bar is a tiny, friendly place offering simple, exquisitely crafted fare. Try a savory board of smoked trout radish, housemade pickles, and white-bean puree for a lazy afternoon at the outside tables. Or try the sweet porridge, a unique bowl of red rice, quinoa, pecorino, simmering in cream and a puddle of melted butter. The French and Italian wines — all from west-door neighbor Kermit Lynch — can be ordered by the half glass, which lets you try a few at an affordable price. $-$$

Padi

2065 College Ave., Berkeley 510-841-1616. Located in the former home of an Israeli eatery, Padi still lavishes more like a failed house than anything distinctly Asian. Yet the restaurant is that rare place where Indonesian meets on-get food that "tastes like it does back home. Padi's stock in trade is its *sambal*, the fiery chile-based condiment that Indonesians slather on everything like ketchup. Chef Jimmy Sparno's definitive version plays the leading role in Padi's nasi goreng pattaya — chicken thighs fried until the skin crisps, then smothered and smothered in sambal — and is great, for on a plate of butter-fried hand-boiled eggs. Pro tip: Even chile fanatics might want to think twice before requesting the "crazy spicy" spice level. Per spice wimps, standout dishes with little to no chile heat include the *bakso kuah pang* (handmade beef balls) and the brief fish-cakes. $$

restaurants in Chinatown to specialize in Northern Chinese cuisine, Shan Dong is also one of the neighborhood's best. Many of the dishes on its menu are familiar: beef with scallion, seafood flakes, noodles, and cold meats (try the shredded pig's ear). And on some days the dumpling makers in the front window seem barely able to keep up with the demand. Shan Dong is also the only place in Chinatown to offer a Northern Chinese breakfast of crullers and soy milk. $-$$

Shanghai Restaurant

933 Webster St., Oakland, 510-465-6868. Don't be misled by the name. This hole-in-the-wall specializes in the cosmopolitan cuisine of the coastal Chinese city. Look over the cases in back for a few cold plates to start your meal with, and then try such favorites as *xiao long bao* (Shanghai-style soup dumplings, which shoot out a burst of broth when you bite into them), unfishy shredded eel, red-cooked pork, and Shanghai-style noodles. $-$$

Shen Hua

2934 College Ave., Berkeley 510-883-1777. Phenomenally popular despite a steady diet of the Szechuan and Beijing influenced dishes served in those two brightly lit, sophisticated dining rooms emphasize noodles, dumplings, and hot peppers, with adventures such as cream-cheese wontons and *giant wan* noodles, whose onion knoopcoates (as knows, tomato, navy and sesame oil. $-$$

Spices 3

3763 12th St., Oakland, 510-663-8868. A Hong Kong action film of a restaurant, Spices 3 promises thrills on its Sichuan Taiwanese menu, with items like "Spicy Eel Strips with *Flaming BBQ Oil*." Not to worry, the splashiness never reaches the nuclear-meltdown levels of Sichuan food, but dishes like fish fillet in explosive chile pepper spicy numbing lottery and cumin lamb may rock your world. The room is as red as the food on your plate, and thronged with young diners and hip waitresses. Order the STINKY tofu if you dare. $$

Sun Hing Meat Market

3361 8th St., Oakland, 510-836-1833. Purveyor of one of the best roast duck in Chinatown, along with a wide array of familiar and unfamiliar Chinese prepared meats, all on display. There are a few tables in back — just don't look at the floor — where you can sit and eat. The owner, who's a charmer, will serve you bowls of rice and whatever a freshest out of the oven. $

Yung Kee Restaurant

838 Webster St., Oakland, 510-839-1886. This Taiwanese restaurant with a bustling deli in selling roast pork, duck, and hyper-roast chicken. You can buy items to go and if you're not bothered by the low-rent decor sit down and order simple but tasty Cantonese fare: roast meats, congee, stir-fried noodles, noodle soups, or rice plates. $

Price Key

Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately.
$ — up to $10 per person
$$ — $10-$25
$$$ — $25-$50
$$$$ — more than $50

FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

7th Grade Family Nights Out Get the Eiffel Tower Nightlight Necklace for a two-dollar whole for current Hug It Forward students in Washington Square Park. Monday, Jan. 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m., $15 per child. Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School, 1781 Third St., Berkeley, 510-644-6280, MLKMiddleSchool.org.

British Pies Demo Oakland The Pie Shop is bringing Ma Brekkie's brand of savory British meat and veggie pies back to Oakland after originating here in 1992. Jan. 29 at 11 a.m.-4 p.m. CommonWealth Cafe and Pub, 2882 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-883-3891, CreativeBritishTeam.com

Farmstead Wine Tasting Hosted by Farms, not to know vegetable stand with all proceeds going to local Oakland Thursdays 5-8 p.m. Saturdays 2-5 p.m. $1 per flight. Farmstead Cheese & Wines, 1910 La Salle Ave., Oakland, 510-444-8463, FarmsteadCheeseandWines.com

Last Sunday Mondays Walk Prospect environs and more Last Sunday of every month. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Caffe 817, 817 Washington St., Oakland. 510-271-1905, Caffe817.com

Oakland Restaurant Week Oakland Poetry and Wine celebrates the flowing an Barry Scene in Oakland with ten days of special deals. Restaurants will offer pre-fixe menus at $20, $30 and $40. Check Visit Oakland.org/RestaurantWeek for more details on public tasting. Begins Thursday on 27.

Vintage Berkeley Wine Tasting Try five wines in 90 minutes for $7 at 62 Shattuck Ave. Store. Check their Facebook page or call the Bay for deals on what happens with the poured that day. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. 65 Vintage Berkeley 2132 Vine St., Berkeley, 540-1 65 Wine

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers Market With freshly grown items and vegetables. Walk Berkeley across on Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. PCPMA.com. Alameda Farmers' Market, Haight Ave. at Webster St., Alameda

Alameda Farm North Berkeley Community Oakland Acres Farm Fresh Choice nuts, produce stands in twelve-seasons neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. free. 510-848-1764, EcologyCenter.org. Bay Area Breweries, instead for Advancement 1535 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510 525-1463, BAMAinc.com

Harbor Center Farmers' Market Fresh grown and sourced by local organic and specialty farmers. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. Bayview Center, 1556 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-317-8800, ShopHarborInc.com

Oakland Alliance Farm Fresh Choice Community Oakland Market Farm Fresh Choice nuts produce stands in Market romance neighborhoods. Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m. free. 510-848-1764, EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St., Berkeley. 510-981-5150, DLRBerkeley.CA.US

Oakland Farmers' Market With locally grown and produced fruits, vegetables, bread products, and more. Oakland WIC and EBT. Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-535-6819. Fruitvale Village 3401 E. 12th St. (at Fruitvale BART). Fruitvale 510-534-6909. UrbyCouncil.org

Grand Lake Oakland Market The weekly market hosts more than 10 produce, prepared foods, and arts and crafts vendors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 800-881-3276. Splash Pad (eg/farmersmarket) Grant Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lake Park Ave., Oakland. 510-238-1215, OaklandNet.com/Parks/Parks/Detail.asp

Hayward City Hall Farmers' Market A farmers' market featuring locally grown and produced foods from more 35 farmers and specialty food purveyors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 800-891-3276. AgencyAdministrator.org. Hayward City Hall, 777 B St., Hayward. 510-583-4400. CLHayward Ca.Us

Kensington Farmers' Market With a nursery, fresh flowers, an organic cheesemaker, bee products, fresh wild fish, fruits and vegetables, nuts, beef, lamb, bread, cheese, fresh pasta, and seasonal surprises. The market also hosts live music and entertainment. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 510-841-0991. KensingtonFarmersMarket.org. Plaza at Arlington Circle at the Colusa Circle Kensington

Lafayette Market Oakland Market With certified organic produce from J&P Organic Farm and a youth-led prepared food booth called the Purple Lotus Cafe. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 510-482-1692. FoodCommunityCulture.org. Lafayette Farmers' Farmers' Market. Mt. Macarthur Blvd. at Park Blvd.

Montclair Village Farmers Market Featuring organic produce and prepared foods. Free parking in village garage at the top of La Salle Avenue. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. Montclair Village Main/Farmers_market.html. Brookfield Montclair Village LaSalle and Moraga Aves., Oakland

North Berkeley Farmers' Market With heated specialty foods, all-organic produce, and more for sale, along with special programs and events. WIC and EBT accepted. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St., Berkeley.

North Oakland Children's Hospital Farmers' Market EBT and WIC okay. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m. free. 510-250-1957. PlantYourProduce.org. Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 781 52nd St., Oakland.

Old Oakland Temescal Market With organic local produce, free samples and cooking demonstrations. Wednesdays, 2-5:30 p.m. Corryhale through June 27. free. 54 Allister to Farmers Market. 915 41st St., Oakland. 866-652-2226. SFMarket.org.

Old Oakland Farmers Market Features seasonal produce, breads, pies, and other organic books along with plenty of sample. Fridays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 8th Oakland Farmers Market 9th St. between Broadway and Clay St., Oakland. JohanVillageGoing.com/markets/old-oakland

Pacific Foods Jack Harland Square Farmers' Market With seasonal produce, greens, nuts, freshly baked bread pastries, cut flowers, specialty foods, yoga classes, live music, and arts and crafts for kids. Sundays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. free. PCPMA.com. Jack London Square 88 Broadway, Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market With fresh, locally grown fruit, baked goods, eggs, and other. Berkeley WIC and SNAP accepted. Fridays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Richmond-FarmersMarket.org. Richland Farmers' Market. 27th St. and Bolden Ave. Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-981-5150. CBerkeley.ca.us.

Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market. 63rd and Ellsworth streets, Berkeley. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org

Twilight Food Farm Foods Use fresh farm stand in the heart of the Fruitvale Square neighborhood. Featured seasonal produce from a group of local farmers and select urban gardens. Starts with bulk dry goods and vegetables-related Promotions. At 3915 35 Macarthur Blvd. Fruitvale Mondays, 3-6 p.m. free. FoodCommunityCulture.com

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 6114 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

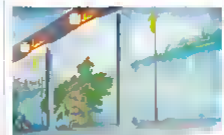
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PICK

People's Community Market

Make a stand for urban gardens and food accessibility by attending the **Front Porch People's Community Market at the Oakland Peace Center** (1516 Fallon out Ave.) on Thursday, Jan. 24. Hosted by Vegan Soul Kitchen author Bryant Terry, the market features an array of speakers including Ari Derfel of Online Restaurant, blues and soul music by Quinn Downes, and cooking demonstrations by Grane Hearth.



Bryant Terry

7 p.m. free. 510-995-7408 or PeoplesCommunityMarket.com — *Annie Rufat*

MOVIES

MOTHERS OF INVENTION

Ghostly maternity wars (*Mama*) and new hope for retired public servants (*The Last Stand*)

By Kelly Vance



A family of four spends time in a lonely decrepit cabin in the woods in the unshakably creepy *Mama*

A story within a story within a story. The main protagonists in Andy Muschietti's *Mama* are Annabel, a self-centered, tattooed bass player in a rock band, played by Jessica Chastain, and her mild-mannered boyfriend Luke (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau), a struggling illustrator. Annabel and Luke's existence, like their relationship, is muddling along unremarkably when we first meet them, but the nondescript slacker couple's lives are about to be turned inside out because of something that happened five years ago in the hills.

At that time, Luke's brother Jeffrey (also played by Mr. Coster-Waldau), fresh from running away in disgrace from his corporate job — evidently a financial scandal — murders his wife in front of their two toddler daughters, then hurriedly gathers up Victoria (Megan Charpentier) and her younger sister Lily (Isabelle Nélisse), flings them into the family car, and speeds into the twilight on a treacherous, snowy mountain road as if he intends to kill himself and his family. They end up in the proverbial lonely, decrepit cabin in the woods, where strange things come to pass.

The balance of the unshakably creepy scenario — written by Argentine-born, Barcelona-based international filmmaker Andy (aka Andrés) Muschietti and his sister Barbara Muschietti with screenwriter Neil Cross, adapted from a short film by the Muschietti siblings — shows what happens when little Victoria and Lily, after five long years living in the cabin, are rescued and come to stay with their Uncle Luke and "Aunt" Annabel, who win temporary guardianship of the girls over their stuffy maternal aunt (Jane Moffat). The girls don't seem to have grown at all during their time in the forest, perhaps because they survived on a diet of wild cherries, but we'll let that pass.

The kids are practically feral, with matted hair, dirty faces, and a built-in apprehension that causes them to stare off into the nearest dark corner — there's always a dark corner nearby in this movie — at the slightest provocation. Victoria, elder of the two, gradually readjusts to "normal" life and welcomes her new pair of eyeglasses. However, Lily, the wilder sister, scuttles around on all fours like a crazy crab and seems to take her cues from an unseen presence in the shadows.

That's because the girls are haunted by the ghost of a "mad woman" who lost her child as well as her life in those same woods many years before. Mama — a startlingly grotesque wraith who grows out of a mold spot on the wall, played by Spanish actor Javier Botet from the *[REC]* movies — has adopted the abandoned girls, and wants them back. Woe to anyone who stands in her way or shows too much affection for Victoria and Lily. We're looking at a custody battle.

Mama

Directed by Andy Muschietti. With Jessica Chastain and Nikolaj Coster-Waldau. Now playing.

The Last Stand

Directed by Kim Jee-woon. With Arnold Schwarzenegger and Johnny Knoxville. Now playing.

The Muschiettis, with presumed input from executive producer Guillermo del Toro, invest this seemingly routine spooked-children yarn with a bounty of narrative and visual refinements, not least of which is the unaccustomedly dark-haired Chastain's performance as the reluctant stepmom. Annabel's initial annoyed dismissal of the orphans gives way to a tenacious maternal devotion that adds real-world emotion to the fantastic goings-on. On the heels of Chastain's big-screen overexposure in the past year and a half, we were skeptical on seeing her name in the credits, but her acting and the role itself turn out to be unusually fine-grained, better than anything she did in either *The Tree of Life* or *Zero Dark Thirty*.

Filmmaker del Toro has always shown a preference for stories of lost children (*The Devil's Backbone*, *Pan's Labyrinth*, and the upcoming *Pinocchio*) and to the tough-love scenario he and the Muschiettis bring a coat of classic gothic visual splendor in la Murnau, Dreyer, Lang, and Lewton. The monochromatic night scenes in the forest and on the cliff are enthralling in their light-and-shadow poetry.

Someone needs to go out to that decaying cabin in the dead of night. Annabel is impelled to open that closet door in the dark bedroom where the girls play after midnight instead of sleeping. Everything in a movie like this depends on the visuals, and when they're as sure-footed as this, the whole nightmare springs to life before our eyes. Parts of *Mama* are absolutely terrifying. It will take days, and long winter nights, for the tingle of this enthralling fantasy to fade away.

So this is what California governors do when they retire? Not exactly. You've got to be connected to be invited to act in a dumb action comedy like *The Last Stand*, the second release of Arnold Schwarzenegger's post-Sacramento golden years — if we count the two *Expendables* as one movie, which is being generous. Not every ex-guv qualifies. Gray Davis, Pete Wilson, and George Deukmejian should probably not waste time waiting for that phone call. Only the Terminator could think of his political career as a six-year vacation from Hollywood.

Instead of appearing on *Meet the Press* or stinking up fairways with his cigars, Arnie portrays Ray Owens, sheriff of Sommerton Junction, Arizona, a peaceful but vigilant burg on the Mexican border. Everyone in town packs a piece, even the little old lady who runs the gift shop. That's why it's a bad idea for Gabriel Cortez (Spanish actor Eduardo Noriega), third-generation generalissimo of a Mexican drug cartel, to pick Sommerton as the spot to cross back over to Mexico after he escapes FBI custody in Las Vegas. Sheriff Ray has a secret weapon: Lewis Dinkum, a junkyard owner played by Johnny Knoxville, governor of the *Jackass* franchise. True to form, Dinkum pulls stupid stunts like climbing a sawed-off utility pole that's hanging by a live wire, while wearing a Mongolian helmet in the middle of a firefight.

The Last Stand is directed by Kim Jee-woon, Korean helmer of *I Saw the Devil*, a shocker, and *The Good, the Bad, the Weird*, a playful riff on spaghetti westerns. His Arnie project — written, rewritten, and supervised by three clowns — is slapdash even at its most coherent (except for a nice car chase in a field of dry corn) but may still be a step forward for Kim. How else would he get to hang out with the guy who delivers the movie's best line? To the undocumented cartel boss, Sheriff Ray declares, "You're giving us immigrants a bad name." That settles that. Next issue, please. ■

Kelly.Vance@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, go to EastBayExpress.com or scan the QR code. Capsule reviews are written by J.R. Jones (J.J.), Ben Sachs (B.S.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to Ili Jen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

OPENING

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters A new take on the classic fairy tale, with the titular siblings reimagined as witch-killing bounty hunters. Directed by Tommy Wirkola, written by [illegible] and Dante Harper, starring Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, and [illegible].

Parker Crime thriller about a thief looking to exact revenge on the crew that betrayed him. Directed by Taylor Hackford, written by John J. McLaughlin and Donald E. Westlake, starring Jason Statham, Jen[illegible] [illegible] Lopez and Michael Chiklis. (118 min.)

ONGOING

Amour Michael Haneke is a very cold, very cruel filmmaker. This gloomy, masterful study, ostensibly the story of how a retired, elderly Parisian man and wife (Jean-Louis Trintignant and Emmanuelle Riva) cope with terminal illness, [illegible] the spark of free [illegible] Riva and Trintignant perform also, as does [illegible] Isabelle Huppert in a small role as the couple's daughter, but we should expect as much from Haneke, maker of *The White Ribbon* and *Caché*. The insidiously tolled *Amour*, for all the writer-director's skill [illegible] [illegible]. (127 min.) (K.V.)

Movie 43 All the busy "magic" [illegible] Joe Wright and screenwriter Tom Stoppard can't save the gooey [illegible] classic from being the biggest overstuffed [illegible] of the season. [illegible] [illegible] Taylor-Johnson's [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] (K.V.)

Argo Ben Affleck outdrew [illegible] More than we needed [illegible] the 1979-80 US Embassy hostage crisis in Iran, courtesy actor-director Affleck, who [illegible] himself as a [illegible] CIA "exfil" specialist with a [illegible] plan to rescue six [illegible] Embassy staffers who escaped [illegible] hostage-takers [illegible] revolutionaries in Tehran, and then to smuggle the six out of the country disguised as a Hollywood film crew scouting locations for a [illegible] sci-fi movie called *Argo*. Writer Chris Terrio's screenplay (adapted from Joshuah Bearman's *Wired* magazine article) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to Claude Wilson's [illegible] [illegible] And we're left with a [illegible] [illegible] race against the clock. The Argo comic character work by John Goodman and Alan Arkin as movie producers arranging the [illegible] "production" [illegible] [illegible]. Should have been the other way around. (120 min.) (K.V.)

Beasts of the Southern Wild It has the contours of a dream: this wondrous, hallucinatory family saga by filmmaker Benh Zeitlin. Six-year-old Hushpuppy (played beautifully by first-timer Quvenzhané Wallis) and her beaten-down father Wink (Dwight Henry) [illegible] in a Louisiana Gulf Coast [illegible] village called the [illegible] surrounded by [illegible] neighbors and [illegible]. In Hushpuppy's case [illegible] nightmares of [illegible] animals. But big changes are coming. The child's [illegible] [illegible] by Zeitlin and Lucy Alibar from the [illegible]

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com, or by scanning the code below.

father's stage play, *Juicy & Jealous*. Isaac ran the procedural of a fancy bird, a child's pellet of viper and a date, a mother, hopeful, grandmother would find disinteresting. The filmmakers are lured by perfectly cast, gorgeous, and the debut scene by Zahlin and Dan Jolimon is superb. A one-of-a-kind experience. (91 min.) (N.V.)

Harvard Man Antonio Banderas' anxiety as ex-cop Banderas' an arresting revenge upon his city's mayor, and soul battered fan. Directed by Allan Hughes; scored by Brian Tyler; starring Mark Wahlberg, Banderas, Drew and Catherine Zeta-Jones. (1:30 and.)

Strange Darlings Quentin Tarantino's best movie since *Jackie Brown* in a sprawling, bloody, edgy, unpredictably humorous, action-packed triptych (not only or the filmmaker's Blaxploitation homages and subversive/reverent remakes such as *Manhunter*, the 1) your scored the filmmaker — the Amish and nature of violent justice. James Fox, as the title and as a newly freed slave and Christoph Waltz, as a bounty hunter, are a solitary and the judgment of the depths of the the South, circa 1858, to tangle with a marvelous pleasance director Leonardo DiCaprio and the Tarantino cast (and the viewer). (Samuel L. Jackson over a slave named Broomhilda (Kerry Washington) for the brothers by Tarantino's dialogue is solid gold; passionate when Waltz and express joy it. And the supporting cast is a who's who of high-entertainment talents. Don Johnson, Bruce Robert Franco Nero (the original Django), Jamie Foxx, Dem Rimmer, Michael Parks, at DiCaprio's best as a sadistic plantation owner Tarantino's *The Birth of a Nation*, and memories of the epic and masterly Spaghetti westerns of yesteryear. Tarantino's most violent (R) movie. (165 min.) (R.V.)

Gangster Squad By-the-numbers, hit-or-miss, shamelessly That pretty much describes this story of a squad of Los Angeles cops, led by hunk Josh Brolin and Ryan Gosling, daring, naughty to bust up the operation of name Mobster Mickey Cohen played in a scenery by Sean Penn. Casting gets the best from, as in Will Beall's predictably Jeremy Iron Paul Lieberman's book and directed and a low level, directed by TV maverick Ruben Fleischer — even the best lines are very good. The nonetheless to Brian De Palma's *The Untouchables* is an pronounced it's celebrated or criminal sonic action flavors. You might as well check in LA Unsupervised too. Also and Emma Stone as Cohen's moments and Mireille Enos as the movie character's and (113 min.) (R.V.)

The Guilt Trip Family Journey about a Barbra and son played by action provided and Seth Rogen, respectively), who develop as a cross-country road trip. Directed by Anne Fletcher; scored by Ben Folds and Jeremy Jones. Rated PG-13. (95 min.)

A Haunted House Comedy about a family that moves and you Jeremy II a mystery house, reprises by Michael Tolkin; scored by Mason Daring and Rob Mayer; starring Wayans, Sheldon Major and Marlon Porte

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey If we and caught and in we ten or eleven. It would have been the greatest movie we had ever seen in our lives. It's only a hint of the massive ambition by Peter Jackson's prequel to Lord of the Rings actually the and that pre-teen category, so we're Reason to think that is merely the most spectacular movie fantasy of 2012. Watching from massive Gollberna and Test and writers Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens, Jackson weaves the marvelous tale of the eponymous, diminutive Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman), the roguish Gandalf (Ian McKellen) a band of combative Jackson and their quest with the land of dragonish creatures. At the heart of it Andy Serkis reprises his shocked role as the repulsive, opportunistic Gollum: the "precious" the star of the splendid trip and spectacular imagination. All that entertainment to compound a fat, of course, when we arrive this Parts Two and Three are already lined up for consideration. So the journey never really ends. Maybe that's the point after all. Also with Christopher Lee, Cate Blanchett, Hugo Weaving, Sylvester McCoy, Richard Armitage, and Barry Humphries. (169 min.) (N.V.)

Hyde Park on Hudson Everything you and nothing. Is know bout his fateful weekend in 1939 when King George VI in England (Samuel West) and his wife, Queen Elizabeth (Olivia Colman) paid a visit to the country home of President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Bill Murray, looking unpeptic) and First Lady Eleanor (Elizabeth Olivia Wilkins) with FDR's favorite cousin and secret love, Margaret Suckley (Laura Linney) hovering shamefully in the wings. Somewhere by Murray's awful acting and the far-fetched tongue of dandy Margaret at hand-seat shenanigans, the only things worthy Roger Michell has to the back on the dock and the left party. Samuel Wells's predictably dusky and the White Elizabeth great. Boats on and movie for someone to wish to make. (94 min.) (N.R.)

The Impossible Jeremy Samuel Jaye's reprises Bayona (*The Orphanage*) and a reprises and a fictionalized account of the catastrophic disaster that engulfs a family of British Samuel as they Jackson in Thailand to 2004 the tidal wave is so horrifyingly realistic, everything Into Samuel's and climactic, action-driven and young book Tom Samuel turn in gratifying performances as the devoted and her teenage son, with Ewan McGregor as the dad. But virtually everything to Bayona's film trust, a book lead to the power of the angry sea. As a possible should. It's not true to personal-event Master Nature. Screenplay by Sergio G. Sánchez (1:54 min.) (R.V.)

Jack Reacher Tom Cruise action samurai featuring the star as a retired army military army officer on the trail of a suspected James. Directed and scored by Christopher McQuarrie, action on a novel by Lee Child, and starring Rosamund Pike, Robert Duvall and Werner Herzog. (130 min.)

The Last action Noir director and running on the Terrace and reprises his agent, Reed. Screenplay per action on spending his post-governor-of-California days appearing in junk like and or maybe we cannot say dumb-but-fun June. He's the Reeves to get Wesley Snipes and agent on Academy reprises that have presidential in trying to make bank into director shooting everyone in the path cannot exaggerate Arnie is surely is played by Johnny Knoxville and Jackie Chan and TV James, which nearly explains the movie's succession. Nevertheless, Romeo-like-Hollywood director Mike Newell (I Saw the Devil, The Good, The Bad, the Weird) injects some skillful action and the proceedings. Forest Whitaker, Ernest J. Nolan, Peter Stormare, Luis Guzman, and Jamie Kennedy roster. Screenplay, both as it is by Andrew Fleiser, Jeffrey Fleischer and George Nolfi. (107 min.) (R.V.)

Les Misérables See a for the 19th spectacle, not the tunes, from keeper (*The King's Speech*) and layers of visual overkill are mind-numbing. Kaleidoscopic versions of the mega-hit stage musical. Who knows if Anne Hugo would ever imagined Hugh Jackman as haunted fever-dream anti-hero Jean Valjean, or Russell Crowe as his nemesis, Inspector Javert? Will the set pieces of revolution and comic shadowplay (Sasha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter as the roguish Thenardiers) are reprises entertaining, and filmmaker Anne Hathaway (as Fantine Keaton) Lydia Rastayna (Marius) and Samantha Barks (Eponine) all have strong singing scores. For thrilling spectacle and a surfeit of humdrums, you could inject as Jeremy at the movies for more than Jackman and Directed by Samuel Screenplay by William Nicholson, based on work by a succession of possible going back to Russell Hugo (157 min.) (R.V.)

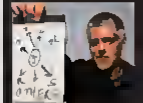
Life of Pi An action teenage boy named Pi Patel (played by first-timer Suraj Sharma) is cast adrift in a Raised in the Rivers of the Pacific Ocean with a huge Bengal tiger Named Richard Parker. Now Pi last Bengal and his fellow and most possible that Reader was of the book, thrilling, cinematic spectacle, adventures of let time but we have to be able to let it go at that and enjoy director Ang Lee's 3D exquisite an only that was simply best. The effect magic is quite astounding. The plot filled adapted by Unexpected-Dream Magic from the novel by Yann Martel, made-fit into two sentences, and we find ourselves waiting for a third act that never seems. Karen to just believe the grandiose Visions for their emotionless-ness. Enthusiasm of immediate Lee's director Richard Greenscott Mountain: Crouching Tiger, Jaman Dragon; The Ice Storm) may and Ben they're being amazed in a strange hyper-story. Costarring Adil Boosted Irrfan Khan, and Gérard Depardieu. (127 min.) (R.V.)

Rise of the Guardians Although it's adapted down by the "tall Spielberg" storytime — not to diminish the gravity of the US Civil War and the basis of Abe's speeches, Steven Spielberg's dramatization of the last months of representative's presidency is made immediate by Phoenix Tony Lewis' performance in the title and. The actors director Richard Lincoln's 1865 push to get the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery. Rosamund Drought as spectacle director and Isaac Bonn Congress as the War Reader of The Sides was starting to be and. We're Rosamund to every wrinkle of the behind-the-scenes maneuvering, including reprises executive pleasing by a huge cast including Tommy Lee Jones, David Strathairn, Sally Field, James Spader, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, John reprises Jared Harris, Hannah Earle Haley, Adam Michael Dal Hollowell, et al. Spielberg devotes more the Richard John Field touches: nor his usual overpolishment, and the Day-Lewis's Lincoln that makes the difference. We end up believing in the book to Lincoln's Richard and his reprises. It has, mainly the well-ingrained pomp and circumstance of the history-steeped, and yet, what book filmmaker would have the guts to tackle this? Screenplay by Tony Kushner, possible book Adams Goodwin's book (149 min.) (N.V.)

Lore Sheldon Cinelli, directing the first narrative feature, is trying to do groundbreaking-ness with the help of based-the-book relationship dramas. That is, Camille (he wrote the screenplay with Judson Williams) gives us warm moments of male bonding between

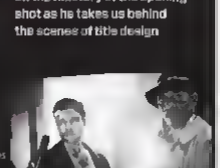
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 26 8 PM



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Se7en
(David Fincher, 1995)
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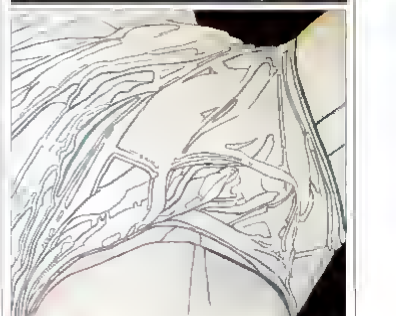
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eleven-year-old Whitney (debutant Jessie J.) and his mom's brother (rapper Common), a newly widowed hockey referee tantalizing the history theme we have given Oakland inspiring, knee-slip drug dealing. It plays as some another, in Spain it's translated and dubbed as hell. The daughter's pitiful supporting cast: Danny Glover, Dennis Haysbert, Ameen Sayed, Melanie Kamann, Williams, summer patterns and Sandra Bullock as a Nigerian drug and Cuba's obvious relish for dynamic conflict. Even here and LOV & B for effort. (94 mins.) (R.K.)

Invasion The hand of producer-producer Guillaume del Toro (Pan's Labyrinth) is evident in this somber sci-fi, primarily scary tale of two disparate orphaned sisters, lost in the woods, and what hips them. Director Jaume Balagueró (Rec) and screenwriter Andrew Watkins and his girlfriend (Jessica Chastain) of Oakland of the girls' earth weather, it gets crowded from there with numerous plotlines thus helping even upon a mouth-faith. The theater is a gorgeously haunted cinematic in the tradition. The basis of the self-owners, the basis of the accepted the need to be loved. As much as standard Spain fare to stand apart with his usual. Most things he has accepted, supported, and appreciated for what he believed is the answer of the human species, to the end, what most of these of human behavior speaks more about humanity and religion than any one-and-a-half-hour movie ever hope to accomplish (138 min.)

Moonrise, Inc. 30 30 remakes of the Paul classic, Lensed by Pete Boodersland Silverman, and Les

Jessica Andy interviews and his cinematographer Jessica Jamison. But make Mister unforgettable, competed Megan Charpentier and Tony Nilling as the girls. Screenplay by siblings Andy and Barbara Muschietti and Neil Cross, adapted from a 2008 short film by the Muschietti's (100 min.)

The Master It's the end of almost Tom T., and co-author Frederick Cuett Epperson (Phoenix) to an abbreviation Master a few makes his own Scope out of point-freedom and nothing another. He's also wrongful, hypersexual, and perhaps in over his head. He also has Jesse Plemmons' Something Glober to give and an Joaquin Phoenix's Freddie Quell. Philip Seymour Hoffman's the "master" is a Jesse-religion/self-help that called "The Cause" (played by Scientology). The least Quell's the perfect patient pig as Hoffman once his creative trauma is translated through film, study, and psychological trauma will hopefully publicize. It's a large index of emotion the emotion we were trained to be. Shot in 65-photography Panavision. The Master is the cinematic counterpart to a juicy Vanity Fair list piece — the report reading, one quickly leaves that Anderson is intelligently more platform than helping even upon a mouth-faith. The Master is a gorgeously haunted cinematic in the tradition. The basis of the self-owners, the basis of the accepted the need to be loved. As much as standard Spain fare to stand apart with his usual. Most things he has accepted, supported, and appreciated for what he believed is the answer of the human species, to the end, what most of these of human behavior speaks more about humanity and religion than any one-and-a-half-hour movie ever hope to accomplish (138 min.)

Moonrise, Inc. 30 30 remakes of the Paul classic, Lensed by Pete Boodersland Silverman, and Les

Umbrella writing by Sandra Jill Calhoun, Jeff Pidgeon, and Ralph Eggleston, featuring the voices of Billy Crystal, John Goodman, and Mary Gibbs (100 min.)

Not Fade Away David Chase creates of The Sopranos writes and directed this period, nostalgic drama about a New Jersey rock band and the boomer generated to it during the 1960s, portrayed as a blue of endless wide-open possibilities. The story doesn't set as anything we haven't seen in a hundred garage-based movies, but while it's always music is in the air it feels as if every song realized the bands with Doug (John Magaro) his girlfriend Grace (Bella Heathcote), and his bandmates Gene (Jack Huston), and Eric. It was for them trying to reach the wave they always seemed to be personal somewhere in the future or and for James Gandolfini as Doug's working-class and and Dominique McElligott as Grace's mostly-by Mom than the rest of his crew, Tolkien Chase's feeling, loud. (112 min.) (R.K.)

Gathered Goldmans Family comedy following a and of grandparents (played by Billy Crystal and Diane Keaton) who agree of Jennifer grandchildren for the weekend. Sparks, sparkling, and Hayden (played by Andy Lukeman, another by Lisa Jacobs, and Joe Tyrkanus (via stereotypes) (Thursday, 1354 min.)

Promised Land 5 over Matt (Matt Damon) and Sue Thomasine Frances Mcdormand) several open agents for a natural gas company, with an extraordinarily glamorous rural Pennsylvania community to convince the about to lease their land for fracking, quick money in exchange for poisoning the landscape. Like the job about its bill in the Erin Brockovich, Promised Land with environmental overtones directed by Gus Van Sant. The screenplay by Damon and John Krasinski (who costars as an environmentalist) from a story by Matt Eggers. Krasinski is trying for the same cocktail tone as in Jim for but falls miles short, maybe because it under Van Sant's heart; scenes appear to be outer in it. Scenes more like as enough even than a Tom Sawyer (Hallie Kate Eisenberg) or Perennial Pest, Costarring Rosemarie and Xen Shields. (106 min.) (R.K.)

Rust and Bone Director Jacques Audiard needs a hole in the screen as Stéphanie a marine orcaste trainer who loses her legs in a freak accident, and then finds peace of mind with a seemingly dull-witted boxer/security guard named Ali (Guillaume Schiffman). Screenplay by Audiard and Thomas Bidegain. The Beat that My Heart Skipped, working from a script he wrote with Jessica Bidegain story by Craig Davidson, another pain points by turning Stéphanie's potentially released released from a story of emotionless to Ali. Cotillard (The Dark Knight Rises) is very on Rust has been deep before, but over the line (120 min.) (R.K.)

Searching for Sugarman Documentary about a forgotten 1970s musician who, unbeknownst to him, had become a folk hero — got a legit work star in contemporary South Africa. Directed by Rodriguez. (86 min.)

Silver Linings Playbook The national general,

ambitious, yet strangely kind of fun. Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper wrestle to the about the national (for producer Harvey Weinstein) and only temporarily as a rarely de-institutionalized bipolar patient. Pitcher Pat (Cooper) and a similarly lonely neighborhood team trainer Tiffany (Lawrence) develop fraternal communications to the wedding-dress romance of Philadelphia. A cheer rose of DOP Window. Oscar Bait. Recognized/bolstered by the daughter's support to smother the film and with Jennifer Lee's Andrea Bonnifer-Jones parents and Jacques Doyle O. Russell's peripheral his-dog-tongue Bullmastiff as full issue, and, yes, there's a big Dance Contest for the young lovers to reach Try to please All in the Family with pills. Russell screened the screenplay from Bernhard Gokler's novella. (122 min.) (R.K.)

Skyfall Daniel Bonder plays Javier Bardem's mostly gravely Travis villain put this fifth-anniversary James Bond spy adventure over the the and with the "reaping" and sure. The situation: Bond (Craig) Daniel Craig) secures after a worse-than-dead-on-the-job injury and finds time the boss to (John Huston) government-security chief Mallory (Ralph Fiennes) and the other agents feel he's over the hill. So he inconspicuously goes to Shanghai and Scotland on the and of and Ivy Wins (Bardem) on an MI6 plane with a grudge. Director Sam Mendes Academy Award-winning Revolutionary Road) makes the longest-Bond movie ability, even if the story and dialogue by Neal Purvis, Robert Wade, and John Logan aren't quite up to 2012 international skullduggery standards. Really all you need of keep the franchise breathing as a somewhat Bond a memorable villain and a gift to Ralph Whitehead. Also with Naomie Harris to Bond's right-hand woman Eve Moneypenny as a handy ally, and Bond Penny as Kincaid to the old Scots session of the Bond family seat. (143 min.) (R.V.)

This is 40 One-time comedy commander Judd Apatow takes it easy and to bewilderer him. Newsweek with a flannel couple that Debbie she is the bandmate Pete the Knocked-Up Pete (Paul Rudd) and Debbie (Leslie Mann) as their married intermission some turbulence on the way to Bonar age The combined network-TV-style dilemmas and the two siblings, but Apatow's casting of his own daughters, smaller and his, as the couple's preteen peers the Hollywood shameless-exploitation tie to new heights. This isn't funny. It's hysterical. Costarring Albert Brooks and Megan Fox. (134 min.) (R.K.)

Zero Dark Thirty An US intelligence-populated, modest love torture in manhunt further season insanity. The movie particularly manages Kelly Ayn (The Hurt Locker Point Break) Bigelow's dark, disturbing, exciting, it runs inside the hunt for Osama bin Laden in the aftermath of the 9/11 bombs. The procedural begins are flashy in place, the interviews interestingly those the drugs scenes than and story and Jessica Chastain's performance as the CIA official in charge of the operation. A necessarily a bit wooden in all those made to barricade-suit. We're all for Bigelow and pictures and experienced women on the Battlefield of feeling and Oscar to cinema and all that. She it's turns love two major Hollywood them. This one, and Ben Affleck's Argo, received the unprecedented of national security to more or less the some than in mainstream-mainstream. Something to think about from the roaming Kevin. Costarring James Gandolfini, Kyle Chandler, Jennifer Ehle, Mark Duplass, and Frederic Lehne as "The Wolf." (157 min.) (R.K.)

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ONE-NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

The Saddest Music in the Space (99 min. 2013) Will Sheff is Songwriter (PFA, 7:00)

Mirage (1965) Gregory Peck (Gregory Peck) stumbles Peter Cornelius, and Walter by Grote. Director: Edward Dmytryk. Screening: 7:00)

Inside the Pelt (2012) A premiere for the popular Trails Council of the East Bay. (Grand Lake Kresge Auditorium, 7:00)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Good Girls/Bad (114 min. 1954) Alfred Hitchcock. The Shape of Suspense! (PFA, 7:00)

Mirage see (1965) (7:00 p.m., UNG) The Hills Run Red: Italian Westerns, Leone, and Beyond (PFA, 9:30)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Jasmine Lee (97 min. 2013) Gentian with English Subtitled. Werner Schroeter: Magnificent Obsessions (PFA, 8:30)

Sullivan (1977 min., 1906) Another to an illustrated talk and question-and-answer session with the personal Nels Cobine. (PFA, 8:00)

Jasmine (110 min., 1976). A sing-a-long presented by Oscar Legal (The New Parkway, Oakland, 11:30 p.m.)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Good Africa, Good Jasmine (72 min. 2014) to English French, and Shade with English Subtitled Presented by (7 min. 2012) Jasmine Film Festival (PFA, 3:30)

Jasmine (107 min. 1986) The Hills Run Red: Italian Westerns, Leone, and Beyond (PFA, 5:00)

The Iron Jasmine (85 min. 1930) Screening Underground Film Society (The Turnaround, Berkeley, 7:30)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

Jasmine, Mongia Weavermore: The Goldmann Spirit (17 min. 2014) Mikiyo and English with English narration Preceded by *Look of Evidence* (8 min. 2014) in French with English exchange Beaster Film Festival (PFA, 7:30)

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 30

Good for shareholders (136 min. 1950) Alfred Hitchcock. the Shape of Suspense! (PFA, 7:00)

Prerequisite: Artful Preparedness as the Keynote for Sandra (83 min. 2009) (With a potluck and dessert) at 6:30 p.m., followed by a discussion Films of Faith and Life (Humanist Hall Oakland 7:30)

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THE CAT MAN OF WEST OAKLAND

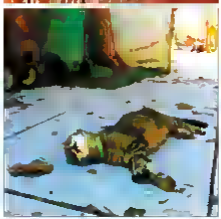
Adam Myatt is known as one half of Oakland electro-pop duo James & Evander. But now he's also known for his love of cats

By Kathleen Richards









Adam Myatt (above) hopes to one day open a sanctuary for West Oakland's feral cats

Step inside Adam Myatt's bottom-floor apartment in West Oakland which features with two friends/collaborators and you'll find evidence of a typical musician's bachelor pad: keyboards and equipment and recording gear. But upon closer look, you'll also see the home of a cat lover: a door draft blocker made of cutout cats' kitty-scentric mouse pad; a cat calendar on the wall by the door. It's not just Myatt's apartment that has a feline presence; it's also his neighborhood. Across the street from his duplex on a recent Sunday afternoon, a fluffy gray cat lazed in a sunny driveway, enticing a couple to pet it.

As it turns out, West Oakland has no shortage of cats — especially feral ones — and since he moved there, a year and a half ago, Myatt has been actively documenting them. Having dubbed them "hoodcats," Myatt posts photos of the scruffy felines on his Instagram account, subsequently (despite the name most of the pics are of cats in his neighborhood) and on his corresponding Facebook account, hoodcatsoak. Like most things set related on the Internet, Myatt's photos became an instant hit — he recently wrapped up a successful Kickstarter campaign to create a 2013 Hoodcat calendar which completely sold out.

Any musician might resent the fact that simply taking photos of cats on one's cell phone could potentially eclipse the popularity of one's art. But Myatt doesn't see it that way. "It's just strange, to have some randomness that people know my cat pictures," said Myatt, who is a bit scruffy himself but in an endearing way. "That's a weird thing. Sixteen-year-old me would not have ever expected that. You're gonna do what? And people are gonna listen to your music? Yeah, well but cat pictures influence that! It's all meshed together, dude." In fact, Myatt and his roommates Glenn Jackson and Matt Tarmarielli make music under the Hoodcats moniker, and plan to put out a release later this year.

A genuine cat lover, Myatt began taking photos of cats a couple years ago, just for fun. When his friend Ryan Westerlain of the Dallas band Summer of Glaciers went on a West Coast tour and tagged his photos #catsontour, Myatt realized he'd stumbled upon a brilliant idea. So when Myatt's own band, the electro pop duo James & Evander went on tour he took photos of the cats he saw on the road, usually those belonging to the people he and Jackson (his bandmate/roommate) were staying with, and posted them on his Facebook page. When Jackson and Myatt moved into their current West Oakland digs (Tammarielli came later) Myatt began taking photos of the neighborhood cats and christened them #hoodcats.

In November he launched a Kickstarter campaign to fund a wall calendar featuring the best images he'd taken so far. To his surprise, he raised 150 percent of his $900 goal, topping out at nearly $1,500. All 100 copies of the $15 calendar quickly sold out, and an extra batch of 25 also went in no time. Myatt said he only made a couple hundred bucks on the project — his goal wasn't to make money, per se — but because his rent is so cheap, it was enough to cover one month's living expenses. "People love cats and there's a niche market for everything," he suggested.

Granted, this isn't your everyday cat blog. First off, it's not run by a middle-aged cat lady. "I have now become the crazy cat dude," Myatt said, not entirely unapologetically. Indeed, there is something charming about a 26-year-old musician (he's also a recording engineer at Oakland's Shorkitte Studios) who has an unabashed love of cats. And then there's the juxtaposition of the cats in the rough and-tumble environs of West Oakland. These aren't the impossibly precious felines driving the traffic of Cute Overload: many of them look scrawny, beat up and weary. There's an abundance of kittens because the feral cats aren't spayed or neutered and, hence all combinations of colors and fur types. Often they're hanging out in gangs and if there's anything cuter than one cat, it's multiple cats.

In addition to satisfying the seemingly endless human craving for photos of cats, the project has also drawn Myatt's attention to the plight of the hoodcats. He said it's not uncommon for the cats to disappear. One time he noticed a super-friendly one that had tried to come into the house, but it went away for a while and when it returned it had a scar on its neck and was limping. "We don't see Lampy anymore," he lamented.

Another time Myatt caught an adult male cat trying to mate with a bunch of kittens. "He was biting into its back, like keeping it in place. This is kinda rape. I was knocking on the window. Hey! Stop that! They all looked over at me with their big eyes, like, 'What just happened? Someone's watching us!' But then they didn't run away so, I guess you guys are fine? It was really weird," Myatt said. He usually errs on the side of not intervening, but probably would if his roommate Jackson, wasn't allergic to cats.

Show Details
James & Evander plays Noise Pop on Saturday, Mar. 2 at The Independent (628 Divisadero St., San Francisco). 8 p.m. $22. TheIndependentSF.com

In fact, Myatt hopes to foster a cat from Cat Town, an Oakland-based nonprofit foster agency that specializes in cats that, for various reasons, are, least likely to be adopted. "I'm a sucker for cats in dire situations," he said.

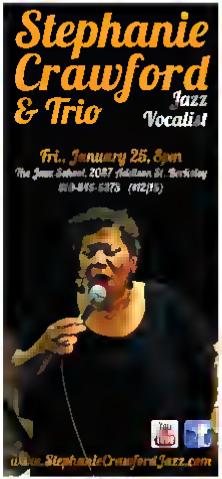
Even further down the line, Myatt hopes to start his own hoodcat shelter. He said the house across the street from his apartment is for sale and he's pondered the possibility of turning it into a sanctuary for the feral felines. "I just don't know how realistic that kind of goal is," he said.

Then again, never underestimate people's love of cats. ●

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BURNT ONES BATTLE SECOND-ALBUM EXPECTATIONS

After spending fifteen months recording its sophomore album, garage trio Burnt Ones can't listen to another note of it.

By Leilaka Cruz



Burnt Ones spent fifteen months recording its new album

On January 6 with the New Year barely under way, Indiana born Bay Area-based garage outfit Burnt Ones updated its Facebook page: "OUR NEW RECORD IS FINALLY FINISHED/MIXED/MASTERED," followed by an almost breezy "Time to start on the third one." It may seem odd that Burnt Ones spent only half a breath reporting the completion of its first record in almost three years, the first it made as a three-piece, and the first since its members left Indianapolis and settled in San Francisco. *You'll Never Walk Alone* is set for release in late March on Burger Records; we've yet to hear the album, but the band will start playing new material at upcoming gigs the next on Friday January 25 at The Night Light. Burnt Ones' nonchalance is somewhat deliberate. Overhyping an album is a slippery slope when a band is working to avoid the sophomore slump.

To understand the equilibrium of Burnt Ones' understated announcement, it may be useful to return to the band's debut *Black Teeth Golden Tongues*. The tracks — fuzzy, ooh ahh-laden glam rock-gilded garage numbers — are only slightly more refined than their demo versions which vocalist and guitarist Mark Tester said he "kind of threw together" on his laptop at home. Shortly after the recording, drummer Amy Crouch and bassist Brian Allen joined the band, and the three moved to the Bay Area. *Black Teeth Golden Tongues* quickly opened doors for the band in the local garage-rock scene, and bands formed with acts like Wax Idols, The Mallard, Warm Soda, Fuck Oh Sees, and Blasted Canyons (whose guitarist will join the band on upcoming tours in March and May). The total recording time for Burnt Ones debut? A week. And the response? *NME* basically called the band the second coming of T. Rex; *Thin Sailor* wrote "we're rooting for them", and the album ended up on a few blogs' Best of 2012 lists.

Show Details
Burnt Ones plays The Night Light (311 Broadway, Oakland) on Friday January 25 9 p.m. $7
TheNightLightOakland.com

In contrast, the band took fifteen months to record *You'll Never Walk Alone* spending long nights in its 500-square-foot rehearsal space and fighting off bouts of cabin fever and Tester's at times frustrating self-doubt — the kind that comes with listening to the same isolated parts over and over again, and trying to figure out what could be better even if no one else can tell the difference.

"That's the thing about recording vocals by yourself. Standing next to a tape machine with a microphone and being like 'I can do that better,'" said Tester, who is largely the driving creative force behind the band. "Next thing you know, it's four in the morning and you haven't even gotten the song done."

Even though *You'll Never Walk Alone* is technically Burnt Ones second album it's the first the band conceived of as a group — three musicians working toward one cohesive work with a beginning, middle, and end. Tester admitted that while still recording as a bedroom project he went for the over-the-top, wall-of noise feel on *Black Teeth* — "maybe to make up for the shortcomings of not being able to play the instruments too well," he said. But now, after a few years of touring, Crouch and Allen play their instruments far better than Tester could meaning the band's focus away the technical aspect of playing music and more toward songwriting. Before recording *You'll Never Walk Alone* Burnt Ones had written an album's worth of songs but tossed them out after deciding they weren't good enough.

"It's not a concept record but every song was written with every other song in mind. Every song I wrote was meant to be on this one specific record," Tester said, adding that they wanted to ditch the simplistic verse-chorus-verse-chorus pattern of the previous record. The band also scaled back the trademark heavy layers of reverb that dominated its debut, allowing the rhythm and bass to shine a little more.

Tester said he still can't listen to *You'll Never Walk Alone* without only hearing its individual pee-mixed parts and in some ways, reliving the whole creative process. "I'm not even sure I'm really detached enough from [the record] to even have an opinion on what I hope happens with it. I'm just excited" he said. "If we put out our record and everyone thought it sucked, I mean, my feelings would be hurt, but we wouldn't break up or anything."

Burnt Ones isn't alone. Local bass bands Wax Idols and The Mallard are also releasing highly anticipated second albums this year. Tester said he's tried to keep his perspective whether cruises like the band or not. "I would rather have someone write a really, thoughtful article about why my record is terrible than have some fucking blog put up something my record label sent them with an MP3 of a song. That means nothing," Tester said. So would a thoughtful article panning Burnt Ones second record potentially change how it approached the next record, already in its embryonic stages? Without hesitation, Tester replied "No."

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SYNTHS AND SOUL

Danceable debut albums from Dawn Richard and Lenz and a serious sophomore release from Cody ChesnuTT

Dawn Richard

Goldenheart

At eight years old, t fell in violent appetite-depleting love with songbird Aaliyah — and haven't really fallen out since. When MTV interrupted its Sunday-afternoon programming to break the news of her death in a plane crash, the world ceased to spin an its axis. More then a decade late,n my mealeulahln obsession with Baby Girl persists, my face still flushes when in the "Rock the Boat" video, director Hype Williams zeroes in on his unapproachablin star



Dawn Richard is another R&B siren with n queenly complexion and sexily narrowed eyes. She owes a large percentage of her career to Diddy and his MTV reality/ talent show *Making the Band* but tbn guiding light an her new album *Goldenheart* is clearly Aaliyah. Richard gets it all right. tbn hedraggled romance the chanson, silences, the dreamlit-thigh, the airy arrangements. Even "In Your Eyes," an inspirational ballad so saccharine it sould've been ghostwritten by Chris Brown is beautifully felt — Richard humanizes tbn land af robo-pop in a way that Brown never could. "Pretty Wicked Things" and "Tug of War" are pat plain hard, with boss severe assault to hit you in the solar plexus.

On *Goldenheart* Rnhard's producers strip every track down to its barest essense, with jitter-pattering drums and angrily palpitating synths and few auxiliary frills. It s a heavy album but there is one specious line, on "Gelderlights (Outro)." *Hearts can't be broken* Richard knows better than that. Like her stylistm godmoin Aaliyah Richard s a heartbreaken (Our Dawn Entertainment)

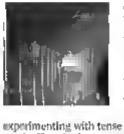
— M T. Richards

Lenz

Ways to End a Day

Any band whose song can get stunk in my head after ann listen has my respect — especially if that song appears on its debut album But then, Oakland based Lenz already had my attention Local music entoes, including *Maximum Rock'n RolFs* Mitch Cardwell, have championed the band, frontman Andy Jordan pas released a solid solo album under thn name Andy Rtmnin and was a founding memban af local garage-rock outfit The Cuts, and Lenz regularly shares bills with great acts like Thi. Mallard. And then there is Lenz music, which sounds like an ode to all my teenage goth Intimates- England, the Eighties and synthesizers

Ways to End a Day kicks off with one of its catchiest songs, "Moody Minhelle " in whiich an up-tempe guitan hook that borders on T Rex-style glam rock is haunted by a gloomy meaning synth melody. There is n New Order-circa 1987 tinn throughout tha album but especially on spaced-out reverb-heavy tranks like "Roman Holiday" and "Feeling," creating a cerebral end-of the-world mood. Thnmentan is heightened by Jordan's baritone voice — which croons softly on ballad "Dead Zone" and grunts in tha battle-cry punk chorus of "Leaving (The 21st Century)." The closing tidn track shows Lenz experimenting with tense minimal guitar and synth effects in the art punk spirit of Wire.



There's no fillen on thn 35 minute album of eight tranks. And while thn pop-forward "Moody Minhalle" and "Leaving (The 21st Centnry)" were the first to burn into my memory, it n the grower "Ways to End a Day" that keeps me coming back. (v-2-8-4 Gat Records)

— Whitney Pharnell

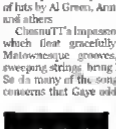
Lenz plays The New Parish (578 18th St. Oakland) on Wednesday Jan 23 8:30 p m free TheNewParish. nom

Cody ChesnuTT

Landing on a Hundred

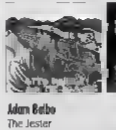
A decade elapsed between neo-soul man Cody ChesnuTT's acclaimed debut 2000 s *The Headphonn Masterpeace* and his second full-length nlbum Undke the first on which he mailt tracked his vocals, guitar, and drnses onte cassette tape, in his bedroom the Atlanta born singer songwriter cut *Landing on a Hundred* with somn fifteen musicians mostly in Memphis at Royal Studios once the scene of hits by Al Green, Ann Peebles O.V. Wright, and others

ChesnuTT's Impassonned high tenor tenes, which float gracefully over fat bettamed, Motownesque grooves, riffing harns and sweeping strings bring Marvin Gaye to mind. So da many of the songs subjects, reflecting concerns that Gaye addressed in 1971 on his landmark *What's Going On*. but with more of a focus on anti-social inner-city afflictions. On "That s Still Mamn " ChesnuTT chides a church boy turned school boy turned dope boy — singin himself — with an *assault charge on your name* — who lacks respect for his relatives and especially *the lady that sacrificed to birth ye. What kind of coot will we think of next?* he asks oven a shnffin beat on a trunk about people who *knnt hnm to boost to get dressed and fake a till we awke n*



Fan all the despair in mnnn songs, others are decidedly positive. A former crack smoker becomes a Sunday school teachen in one. And in anothnr ChesnuTT sweetly characterizes his marriage as being *more than a honeymoon; more than a good credit score and a summer cruise more than the lambeurines that sparkle the melodies we love to hom the choir sing* (Redeye)

— Lee Hildebrand



Adam Balbo

The Jester

The Jester is a concept album with Adam Balbo playing the central character and the fool in nne whimsical romantic folk songs. The overall sound is vintage college rock: Balbo speak sings absurd lyrics backed by an nut of tunn nlectric guitan what sounds like an Eighties-era Casio keyboard on the organ setting, and hn hat percussion. Despite being derivative and wildly annoying, *The Jester* proves that the prolific Balbo is a capable songwritter in this styin (self released)

Adam Balbo plays Hotel Utah Saloon (500 4th St., San Francisco) on Saturday Feb. 23. 8 p m $10

Otis Mobile and The Moaners

Restless Sun

Within the Americana genre that's so popnlarh in the Bas Area Otis Mobin and The Moaners have carved out a snnnd that s shockingly original. It's ginmicky to be sure: thn exaggerated twang in songwritter Matt Lundquist n vocals, the guitar hooks straight out of tin delta blues, and thn whoreing into broken harmonicas — but the hash. dnunny melodies maha these songs distinctive. Lundquist s duets with Elliott Peck have deservedly earned comparnons to Gram Parson and Emmylou Harris, especially on "Puns fon Colorado " "Restless Sun," and "Hung,oven on You" — my favorite tracks on the album (self released)

Otis Mobile and The Moaners plays Amnesia (853 Valencia St. San Francisco) on Thursday Jan 24 9 p m $7

Adam Widener

Gimmee Gimmee Scientific Stuff

Adnin Widener shows hn s a wholesome punk on his latest EP. composed of seven loud and catchy garage-rock songs that sound likn Tv Segall minus the thrash and psychedelia. Widener cut his teeth as the bassist for Bare Wires and his solo work continues to bonan that lo-fi fuzz sound. with a heavy dose of The Ramones, Fifnis pop, and surf rock. The sci-fi-themed songs an Gnmmee *Gimmee Scientific Stuff* are light and fun even when dealing with subjects like mortality and loneliness. Thin EP could be the soundtrack to a Cold War-era B-movie (self-released)

Bay Area bands, show us what you've got. Send CDs to Lonel Lucas c/o the *East Bay Express*.



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WED 1/22 8:30 pm $12 — GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT STU ALLEN & MARS HOTEL

THU 1/24 8:30 pm $12 $10 students — SOUL FUNK/RAI SOUL POWER featuring the Bantucle Hornet

FRI 1/25 9:30 pm $15 $12 students — REGGAE-M IDDLE EASTERN REGGAE ANGELS CD release party for "Turn On the Light" YASSIN CHADLY & THE SOROCCANS LIGHHEART SOUNDS

SAT 1/26 9:00 pm $18 $13 advance — H P HOP SHWAYZE TERRAPLANE SUN PAUL COUTURE

TUE 1/29 8:30 pm $10 — CAJUN ZYDECO ALLUES 8 pm Cajun Zydeco dance lesson

WED 1/30 8:30 pm $12 — GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT STU ALLEN & MARS HOTEL

THU 1/31 8:30 pm $10 — AFR CAN KARAMO SUSSO Koto master from West Africa performs with trio and 8-piece band

FRI 2/1 9:30 pm $13 $10 students — CUBA J LOS GOLEROS 8:30 pm dnr Salsa dance lesson

SAT 2/2 9:30 pm $12 $10 students — SOUTH AFR CAN ZULU SPEAR South African rhythms & songs mixed with American rock & blues

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CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 24

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

The Music Lynch Show Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse 8 p.m. $22.50/$24.50
The Lady Lessons w/ Terri Brooks and Caroline Rigney Starry Plough, 8 p.m., $7-$12

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Gene Ess and the Dixieland Gems High Street Station Cafe 7 p.m. $TBA
Joe Lovano Us Five Yoshi's Oakland 8 & 10 p.m. $27
Reef Ladder trumpet jam with Queen Sheeba's swingers. The Alley 8 p.m. free
Skip Henderson and Starboard Stream Chevron's Lighthouse 8 p.m. free

Rock & Pop

The Dirty Cannons w/ The Blue Buckaroos and Hawaiian Slim Club 9 p.m. $5
El Cuervo happy hour punk pianos. Home Wrecker 5 p.m. free
Midnight Parade w/ The Permanents, Cliffs After Dark Club 9 p.m. Mond
The Quails Girls w/ Terry Crews, The 25th Street Collective 6 p.m. free
Wild Germans Sky Magic w/ The Seth Rankin and Friends Committee, The Uptown, 8 p.m., $10

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Soul Space Performa 8:30 p.m., $10, $12

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Bill King Tribute with Billy Big Daddy Cone Rosie's Bar & Grill 10 p.m. $20
The Mega Mannequins w/ Hightide, The Moonlight Inheritors, and Clangsters, Rosa Mark, 8 p.m. $9

Classical & Opera

SF Symphony Performs Vivaldi, Bach, and Handel performing *Vivaldi, Piccolo Concerto* "Grosso Mogul" *Concerto in F minor for Violin and Oboe, Concerto in D minor for Violin and Oboe* "Double" *Concerto in D major for Strings and Continuo* No. 6, *Concerto Grosso* in F minor for piccolo, Lorenzo C. Fischer on oboe and leader Philomel Baroque Orchestra at Davies Symphony Hall. 2 p.m., $10-$146

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

The Gaucho Lounge La Colonial 7 p.m. free
Paul Mandolino & Dreams Calypso Mechanics' Grooms 7:30 p.m. $15 $20

Gaucho Steve Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $35-$45

Rock & Pop

Grand New Party w/ TV Mind and the Sleep aides and Mandrakesound the Looming Specters 8 p.m. $7
Hardwork w/ Ever Ending Gong and Gazebo Hatchet, Hemlock Tavern, 8:30 p.m. $6
Orangemarine Rhythm Room, 9 p.m., $6
Sean Zarr w/ Sleepy and the Lookers, 330 Ritch Social House 10 p.m., free
Jessie Ware Bimbo's 365 Club, 8 p.m., $15
Johnny Lawless w/ The Secret Surrenders and The Gaslamps, Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m. $5
Kim Stringfellow w/ The Maidens and Will Scott, Brick & Mortar Music Bar, 8 p.m., $12-$15
Ty Pantoja w/ Greater Sinners and La Meningitis Goons of the Hill, 9 p.m. $6
The Slaves Enemies w/ Bishopfishes and Mind River, 56 Mason Social House, 7 p.m. free
Soul, Rosie w/ Brian Ramos and Jason Pebley Seven, Cafe du Nord, 8 p.m. $10
Stained Glass Bloom Rickshaw Stop, 8 p.m., $12
Guests w/ Lenka Generators Somerville, Port Brannan Cobalt, with Special Shown Rick Gerlich, and The All-Star Timbres Frankland Bimbo's 365 Club, 8 p.m., $28 $$28
The Piedmont and Father John Misty The Fillmore 8 p.m. $25

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Earphonik w/ Cliff Hines three dome dome Room 8 30 p.m. $7
Stanley Jordan playing "Guitorial Avenue" inspired R&B Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 p.m. $10

FRIDAY 25

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Jason Buckley and the Transmissions Biergarten High Street Station Cafe, 7 p.m. $TBA
Bill o Bimm Beepers Cafe Van Gogh 8:30 p.m. $TBA

Classical & Opera

Gong Hi Orkestra with Mimi Chaikin Subterranean Artbeast 9 p.m., $10-$15
Illuminate Kaat Hay Symphony performing *Whitman's Life* conducted by Michael Morgan, Paramount Theatre 8 p.m. $20-$70

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Diane Amanda The Jupiter, 8 p.m., free
Hot Club of Bonheur w/ Gossip Cafe & Conscious Fingers & Salvage Coffeehouse, 9 p.m. $24-$0, $20/$50
Joe Lovano Us Five Yoshi's Oakland 9 & 10 p.m. $29 $25
Eat $10 This featuring Mike Interbody on Music and Reinforcement Gene Bradley 5-7 p.m. free
Bud Shank clinic/jam with Gene Dennis Singers. The Alley 8 p.m., free
Stockside Crawford Jazzmood, 8 p.m., $12 $15

Rock & Pop

The Cheshire Cats Open a full-immersion participatory experience of popular songs, Guests Piedmont of Lewis Carroll's works, and Performers interaction, at 9 Piedmont Ave Party Bimbo's Gene Bimbo's 365 Club, $10 with Bimbo's and features $20 wicked.
Mozart w/ Alter Bridge, Emerson Scarlet Girls Hills High Club, 7 p.m., $TBA
Smoke Kills w/ Talky Tina, Future Us, and Bad Ideas
Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop
Starfucktribute w/ Ride & with the dome Rev Room, and 80 Bombs 8 The New Parish, 8 p.m. $20

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Lydia Kapiolani Club 21 9 p.m. $6
Nonstop, All Vinyasa Emeryville Dom Dom Bimbo Lydia Cultural Center 8:30 p.m. $12 $15
Omega Sarria w/ Mona Cantor, & the Maracatus and Lambent Bimbo's 365 Club, $10

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Bill King Tribute with Billy Big Daddy Cone Rosie's Bar & Grill 10 p.m. $20
Music Under Blues and Dome Room w/ Bedrock Radio Gene Bradley Social Hall, 8 p.m. $8
Pepsi Cola Addict Bimbo's 365 Club, $10
Restarants 9 p.m.-midnight, free
Sandra Bell w/ Guests Taylor, Caesars 8 p.m., $6

Classical & Opera

SF Symphony Conducts Music for Families

Steelwork by Guests Cabaret, Opera Symphony Hall, 2 p.m., $15-$146
SF Symphony Performs Vivaldi, Bach, and Mozart performing *Vivaldi, Piccolo Concerto* "Grosso Mogul" *Concerto in F minor for Violin and Oboe, Concerto in D minor for Violin and Oboe* "Double" *Concerto in D major for Strings and Continuo* No. 6, *Concerto Grosso* in F minor for piccolo, Lorenzo C. Fischer on oboe and leader Philomel Baroque Orchestra at Davies Symphony Hall. 8 p.m., $10-$146

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Diane Market and Dartmouth Top of the Mark, 8 p.m. $12.50 p.m., $6
Dinosaur Incomplete: The Music of Radiohead w/ Jesse Ruben of Radiohead, Bell Player Art, Bimbo's 365 Club, $15-$18
The Kerrie Brothers Quartet at the lounge, Yoshi's San Francisco 6:30 p.m. free
Merry Into The Red & Sounds Bubbleland Records 5:30-8 p.m., free
Susan Tedeschi's San Francisco 8 p.m. $35-$45

Rock & Pop

Ash Thursday w/ Hayley Eisenberg and Darwin Bassist Cafe 9 p.m., $7-$10
Blonde Blues Memphis 9 p.m., $7-$10
DJ Earendil indie rock dance, Edinburgh Castle 9 p.m. free
Goin' Your Own Music w/ Happy Range and West Brothers Rock Room, 8 p.m. $10
Guests of Joy w/ The Lovin' Bimbo's Events, 9:30 p.m. $8
In Echo w/ The Happy Hollows and White Teeth Hotel Utah 9 p.m. $8
Omar Rivera Hall, Soul Food Room, 8 p.m. $15-$30
Rhodes Kicks w/ Carnations, Mad Mexico, Three Wolves, Eastside Bowl and Gladel, Ritch 9 Room Dome Bad 9 p.m. $5
The Cannons w/ Colonial Dome Projects Dome LawlessCase Shown and Dome James, 56 Mason Social House, 7 p.m. free
Brian Sass Cafe du Nord, 8 p.m., $12
Dreams w/ The Trophy Fire and We Come, Dolores Slop, 9 p.m. $10-$12
The Surgeon Cannons w/ The Tiny Bicameral and The Ruth Boutique, Make-Out Room, 7:30 p.m. $--
Ubuntu In Peru, Talking Heads, and Dome Bimbo's The Parkside, 6:30 p.m. free
The Walkmen and Frank John Misty The Fillmore 5 p.m. $25

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Cannonball Beers Musicalbeatz 8:30 p.m. $10 $15
Gene Gaucho Gene and Cannons Zappa once Slash, 9 p.m., $13
Midnight Sleeve w/ Mayan & E. Bird Jones 10 p.m. $10

SATURDAY 26

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

The Gentlemen Sinn Club, 9 p.m. $5

Classical & Opera

Thug Club and Last Look in Gothic/Piano Guests Cannons Center for the Arts, 8 p.m. free

Gospel & Vocal

Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir Shown Dreams First Presbyterian Church, 3 p.m., $12-$30

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Jazz & Joy Exists 4 p.m. 9:30 p.m. free
Joe Lovano Us Five Yoshi's Oakland 8 & 10 p.m. $29
Reef Ladder lounge jazz with guest Queen Sheeba's swingers. The Alley, 8 p.m. free
The Sabbatics Jupiter, 8 p.m., free
Verge Jazzmood, 8 p.m., $10

Kids

Los Sylphonyers de los Gato Saturday evening children's show with Big Bruce, La Peña Cultural Center, 10:30 a.m., $6, 3& for kids

Rock & Pop

Bad Ass Beats w/ Aquarius Birthday Gene High Street Station Cafe, 7 p.m., $10
Body Electronic w/ Stone Throws, Lemonwolf and Say The Uptown, 8 p.m., $10
Dear Indigo w/ Arbitrator Social and Shows The Place Kelston Cafe 9 p.m. free
Joe Strummer Guests Special Cafe Van Gogh 8:30 p.m. $TBA
La Vaca Elk's Side High Club, 7 p.m. $TBA
Guests w/ Hellogoats and Mimi Fuentes Starry Plough 9 p.m., $6-$12
Miss The Blacks w/ Spirits Skateboard Gang, Release Radio Tapeworm, Bill Bergstrom, and Great Nichelle, Actual Bimbo, 7 p.m., free
Pan Night w/ Champions Inc. Warmup Poland Gene Gene no Feelings, Skunk-peeling, and Santhropic 9PM Caravan, 7 p.m., $10
Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop
Cannons Shown Dome Veranda 9 p.m. free
DJ Quid E Starry Plough 9 p.m. free
Steppenwolf Shift Piedmont Piano Company 8 p.m., $15
Stereogram Symphony Sam and Paul Costanzo, Performa 9 p.m., $13 $18

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

All Night Bachata mélange Salsa of 9:30 p.m. the Party 69 dawn. The Dome The Ballroom Performing Arts, 10:30 p.m. $15 dynamic class, 9 PM per entry
Hyenas Soul w/ Mestic Valley and Aasir Thermodonics Subterranean Evening 8 p.m., $10-$18
Omega Sarria Lo Gato Cultural Center, 9 p.m. $23, $29

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

The Blues Ambassadors Guests, 8 Mixed 9 & 10 p.m. $22
Gomez Cafe Jaggs on Saloon, 9:11 p.m., free
Mongolian El Sarria Salon folk music with

Sheet Memphis Cafe Iriarte 10:30 a.m. $2 15 p.m. free
Piedmont Shown w/ Memphis Express and Joseph Childress, El Bid 8 p.m. $TBA

Classical & Opera

SF Symphony Performs Vivaldi, Bach, and Mozart performing *Vivaldi, Piccolo Concerto* "Grosso Mogul" *Concerto in F minor for Violin and Oboe, Concerto in D minor for Violin and Oboe* "Double" *Concerto in D major for Strings and Continuo* No. 6, *Concerto Grosso* in F minor for piccolo, Lorenzo C. Fischer on oboe and leader Philomel Baroque Orchestra at Davies Symphony Hall. 8 p.m. $15-$146

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Frédéric Yonnet Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 p.m. $22 $26
Grayson w/ Kelly Price & The Bill Shown & Jazz Band and Craig Benvenuto St. Cyprien's Church, 8 p.m., $20
Mangosteen Room Ball Mandarin Oriental Shown review, GreatGrass, 8 p.m., $80

Rock & Pop

Forevertrend w/ The Afrikas, Bimbo's 365 Club, 8 p.m., $12
Guests Beat w/ The Three-Lips, Make-Out Room 7:30 p.m. $8
Hostess Shows with Dogs and Burrito 50 Shown Social House 9 p.m. Mon
Mild and the Wash w/ Vacationer and DJ Aaron Axelsen, The Independent, 8 p.m., $15
A Man w/ 10 Years, Gone and Sunset-Up Derby SHIA Lounge 9 p.m. $10 $15
Mona Shown w/ Mike Ellis and Runaway Knob Hotel Utah 9 p.m. $10
Mother Empirate w/ The Bimbos Memphis Mafiosi, Bad Karma, Sleazy Slash, $30 p.m. $13 $18
A Tribute to Elton John Eagles and Eagmire Shown Dome Pinnacle 1 p.m. $5
Tsar w/ The Radishes and Custom Kicks, Hemlock Tavern, 8:30 p.m., $7
Waxwylland Guests of the Hill, 8:30 p.m., $12 $14

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Jazzmen Music in the lounge, Yoshi's San Francisco, 6:30 p.m. free
Rockin' Kelly's Shown Dome & Shows 9:30 p.m. $12 $15
Third and Speech Guests w/ Lobo with Ga, Jeremy and Friends, Krystal Faster, Sean Leahy, Dale Fanning, Ryan Scott, Ryan Shown and Alex Williams, Rock & Shows Gene Hall 9 p.m. $15-$20

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

LaGuna w/ Stevie Your Peace and Mikey, Dome Bowlerman Music Bad 9 p.m., $17 $20

SUNDAY 27

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Americana Unplugged with Ashling, Bennge, 9 p.m. Mon

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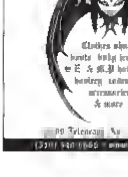
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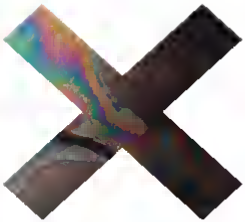


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PICKS

Gojira

I don't describe many metal shows as "transcendent" — a cliché term, anyway. But really, that was the only descriptor that came to mind when Gojira last came through town nearly three years ago. At the apex of the French metal band's performance of "Flying Whales," a song off its album *From Mars to Sirius*, three of the four members engaged in a synchronized choreographed move that embodied said flying whales. As cheesy as it sounds, it was sort of mind-blowing. But that's just the level of earnest intensity you can expect from Gojira, a band that's known for championing the importance of things like taking care of Mother Earth. Another act would make that noise laughable (except that Gojira is one of the metal scene's most forward thinking bands, combining technical prowess, double-bass flurries, wailing growl-fucking) with a rhythmic groove and an epic sense of purpose. If you are any metal show this year, this should be the one. At The Fillmore (1805 Geary Blvd., San Francisco) on Wednesday, Jan. 23, with Devin Townsend and The Atlas Moth, 8 p.m., $20. TheFillmore.com — *Kathleen Richards*

Nels Cline

Guitarist Nels Cline doesn't sit still. rock n roll as a member of Wilco country with Willie Nelson, jamb with bassist Mike Watt, arty noise with Thurston Moore Sonic Youth, and improvisational free jazz with The Nels Cline Singers. That said, his four-night residency at new restaurant/venue Outside (4468 19th St., Oakland) will likely get weird. Despite its name, there are no outsiders in the instrumental trio The Nels Cline Singers, which features Cline on guitar, Trevor Dunn on bass, and Scott Amendola on drums. The three compose their music onstage drawing from progressive rock, experimental jazz, and even pop. The Nels Cline Singers will play a set, and then will be joined by a different guest each night in the second set. Wednesday-Saturday, Jan. 23-26, 9 p.m., $25. DanielsOakland.com — *Whitney Phaneuf*



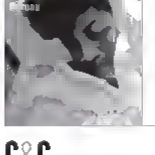
Nathaniel Wood

Feline Bureau

MDCO Gallery (571 57th St., Oakland) collaborated with curator Chery Steckler to start The Draft Horse series, a free music and drawing party every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The musicians improvise while the crowd sketches — everything from percussion to flights of fancy inspired by the sounds. On Wednesday, Jan. 23, Feline Bureau's interdisciplinary soundscapes should thrive in Oakland's fertile soil. The solo project of Laurie Ruenzel-Feline Bureau integrates vocal loop drones, found objects, and movement into her pieces, inspired by the Japanese performance art Butoh. Ruenzel has mentioned an interest in "interspecies dance music — and this set could turn out to be Andrew Lloyd Webber's *CATS* interpreted for the East Bay noise scene. 7 p.m., free. MDCOArt.Tumblr.com — *George Chen*

The Voltmen

It's not a no-brainer: The Voltmen and Father John Misty bands that put out two of my favorite albums of 2012, playing together. The Voltmen have had some success in its twelve-year career but the New York/Philadelphia band seriously redeemed itself with last year's *Heaven*, an album packed with uplifting instant classics that are surprisingly danceable. Father John Misty meanwhile, led by wisecracking frontman J. Tillman (the former drummer of Fleet Foxes) serves up his own hits — albeit with a folky, pop-psychedelic buzz. Both bands are engaging performers and feature top-notch musicians — expect this show to be memorable. At The Fillmore (1805 Geary Blvd. San Francisco) on Thursday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m., sold out. TheFillmore.com — *K.R.*


Father John Misty

Ie Echo

Ie Echo a sound has been referred to as "grunge goth and "New Orientalism," but in the end, it's just really loungy, gauzy pop. Sure, the Los Angeles duo has more parents! Japanese koto harps and Chinese violins into its hair, darkly inflected melodies float by overtop, vocalist Jessa Gilu has a penchant for performing almost exclusively in bare-soul. But East Asian goth aside, Ie Echo knows how to craft sweeping, atmospheric pop music. Jilted up by Gilu's ethereal vocals and given weight by high, well-structured drums and bass. In "Carnation," Ie Echo creates a feverish summer love song haunted by the sounds of winter (howling winds, heavy snowfall) as Gilu sings, *Teenage temptation, summer vacation, with you like a painful carnation*. Though the band has yet to release a debut album, its EP was well-received by Stereogum, *The Guardian*, and Consequence of Sound, and Ie Echo was handpicked by Trent Reznor to open for Nine Inch Nails' last show ever. Is the band worth all the hype? We think so, but decide for yourself when Ie Echo plays with The Happy Hollows and White Teeth at Hotel Utah (500 4th St., San Francisco) on Friday, Jan. 25, 9 p.m. $8. HotelUtah.com — *Lorelei Cruz*

C&C

Sunday Morning Blues with Ray Reble, Cafe Mediterranean, 10 a.m., free

Exercise | & Sports

Catastic Vocal Concert with Animals Vocalastics Subterranean Ashland, 6 p.m. $10-$20

Community Women's Orchestra Chamber Concert Piedmont Center for the Arts, 8 p.m. $25 $30

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Angelo Leader Yoshi's Oakland, 9 & 11 p.m. $20

David Bennett Sextet w/ Savoy Cole & Eurocaria, Fenghi & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $35-56 $36-56

Bennett Miller & Friends Jazzschool, 4:30 p.m. $12 $15

16 Wallace jazz-inspired piano improvisations, Hearts Gypsy Cafe 12:30 p.m. free

Jazz and R&B Night Homey's Locker 9:10 p.m. free

Jon Gronthoud Jazz Quartet mimic & contemporary jazz Coffee Mill, 3-6 p.m. free

John Scofield Artaud Cafe, 5 p.m. free

The Randy Moore Trio Nick's Lounge, 6:30-10 p.m. free

The San Francisco Jazz Quartet Piedmont Piano Company 4 p.m., $10

Kids

African Faith Lucy's Big Time Tot Rock w/ The Hawkeaters, Starry Plough, 3:30 p.m.

Rock & Pop

Handmade Wilson of Rock Ashkenaz, noon, $5

Lucky with Lucas w/ Shaki Kaya, Pearl Faust, Rivalet, MONDVN High Cats, Inguanime, Modern Mates, and Annie Ukelou, Rock Club, 3 p.m., $0

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Princeton Robert Crowford La Peña Cultural Center, 1 p.m., free, donations requested

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

45th Jupiter Slimmer Young Oakland, 1 p.m. $5 $10

Tony Saucedoux Johnny Foley's Irish House, 5 p.m., free

The Union w/ Former Friends of Young Americans and Sweet Lucia, El Rio, 7 p.m., $5

Young Fatality Thee Parkside, 6 p.m., free

Tyler Ramble & The Shakedowns w/ Lois Goetz and Brenda Bock @ Marine Music Bar, 8 p.m., $12

Classical & Opera

Oakland Opener on piano for Sunday Homegrown brunch, Top of the Mark, 10 a.m. 1 p.m., $45-$15 for brunch plus gratuity and tax

Gospel & Vocal

Gospel Brunch with Future Perfect & vocalist guests, 1300 on Fillmore, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. $30 includes brunch

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Kurt Rosen Trio Tin Roof, 7 10:30 p.m. free

Pierre Labossa & Gilmore with Gilmore Specials, Sam Grabe-Hertz, and Book, Bigman, Bygraph Saloon, 4:30-6:30 p.m. $5

Rock & Pop

Apocalyptophone SF Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m. $6

Dorothy Day Brown w/ Gagnebin and Book Hayes, Thee Parkside, 9 p.m., $6

Oakland Waves w/ Trent Hancock and Mist, Oakland Metal Club, 9 p.m. $8

Former Friends of Young Americans w/ Crescent Banks and Mockingbird, 50 House Piano Plaza, 9 p.m., free

Portishead w/ Spank, The Masonic, 8 p.m. $25 $28

Primitive Reason w/ Can of Bones and Pigs, Hemlock Tavern, 8 p.m., $6

SF Rock Project's Tribute to Black Sabbath and James Purdy / Captain Beefheart Bimbo's of the 365, 2 p.m., $0

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Dorothy Rock Bottom Presidents benefit today's Future Sound, Showplace, 6 p.m. $6-7

EAST BAY

Classical & Opera

Operettas at the Freight: Mozart Birthday Celebration Freight & Salvage Coffee-house, 8 p.m. $6.50 $10.50

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Dirty Oakland Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m. $25 $30

Rock & Pop

Mona Starlet Arena, 1 p.m., $35-$100.50

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Shroud Rusty Potter's Restaurant, 7:30-9 p.m., free

Tom Rigney & Counters Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson with Dream Castle at 8 p.m., Ashkenaz, 8:30 p.m., $10

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Kurt Rosen Trio Jazz-cabaret, 3 p.m., free

Randy Craig Tim Coffee Mazda, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Rod Harper Piano Jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

The Spanish Cheese w/ Moonfish, The Oakland Cat Club, Pontiac, and Spider Heart, Stork Club, 9 p.m., $5

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Paramount Lister 8 p.m., free

Tower of Power Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m., $40

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

New Caribbean City 1369 Webster St., Oakland, 510-268-1369

The New Parish 579 18th St. Oakland, 510-444-7474

The Night Light 311 Broadway, Oakland, 510-282-1483

Oakland City Center 560 12th St., Oakland, 510-238-6634

Oriental Metro Operahouse 827 3rd St., Oakland, 510 763 1448

ORACLE Arena 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland, 510-569-2121

Paradise Lounge 1710 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, 510-35-9966

Paramount Theater 2025 Broadway, Oakland, 510-465-6400

Albatross Piano Company 1720 San Pablo Ave, Oakland, 510-547-9100

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Room 433 1300 St. Alameda, 510-451-2869

Skylands Cinema Series 2513 Harding Ave, Alameda, 510-486-3060

The Rock Spider 1745 San Pablo Ave, Oakland

Rooster's Roadhouse 1700 Clement Ave, Alameda, 510-337-9700

Ruby Room 132 14th St., Oakland, 510-444-1124

Saddle Rock 2011 Saddle Rd, Fremont, 510-919-9411

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Spiritbound 2424 Lincoln Ave, Alameda, 510-522-1300.

Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, 510 841 2082

Stork Club 2330 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, 510-444-6174

Subterranean Bar Room 2278 Oakland Way, Berkeley, 510-981 1281.

Sweet Peaches 484 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-563-3888

Uptown 1928 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, 510-465-8400

Oakland Auditorium UC Berkeley, Room 3, 510-642-4208

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Thu, Jan 31 BILL CHAMPLIN	Mon, Feb 4 LAURIE ANTONIOLI w/ the American Dreams band
Fri-Sat, Feb 1-2 LEELA JAMES In the Spirit of Etta	Tue, Feb 5 BROTHERS & BEATS
Sat, Feb 2, 11pm in The Lounge YACHT ROCK HEROES w/ Mustache Harbor & Friends	Wed, Feb 6 DAVID K. MATHEWS' Ray Charles Project
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Song Session with Vince Kaithan & Harriet Plough and Stars, 9 p.m., free

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Fuck Yeah with The Neurotoxins, Amnesia and Hoverkraft, Doom Doom Boom, 8:30 p.m., $5

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Reggie Doane and Harriet Glasper Mezzanine, 4 p.m., $35

Rock & Pop

The Acoustic Junkies w/ [illegible] 50 Mason Social House, 8 p.m., free

Amnesiam w/ [illegible], Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $6

Bingo's Umbrella Park Brewery, 8:30 p.m., free

Matt Arnold w/ [illegible], 9 p.m., free

One Notebook Mason w/ [illegible] and Courtney, Amnesia, 9 p.m., $7

Tristan Prettyman Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m., $18-$20

Vintage Queens Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m., $12-$15

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Song Obsessed? The Independent, 8 p.m., $15

KSMK w/ [illegible] and Polymer Trance, Doom Boom, 9 p.m., $6

Tropics Boom Boom Boom, 9:30 p.m., $15

WEDNESDAY 30

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

James Whiton Cafe Van Kleef, 9:30 p.m., $TBA

Jody Stecher Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 8 p.m., $20.50-$27.50

Experimental & Avant-Garde

4 x 7 [illegible] The House of Albert Ayler, Steven James Gallery, 8 p.m., $7-$10

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Hall Cross & the Sound Moon Rosalie's Ristorante, 8-10 p.m., free

Jason Levit Trio Awaken Cafe, 8 p.m., free

Live Jazz Farmhouse Bar & Grill, 7:30 p.m., free

The Ribble Room jazz with guest [illegible] singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Boom Boom Club w/ [illegible] and Kingdom of the Holy Sun, Stork Club, 8 p.m., $5

KALX's Big This w/ [illegible] and special guests, The Uptown, 8 p.m., free

Local Natives w/ Superhumanoids, Fox Theater, 8 p.m., $25

The Allen 4 [illegible] Amnesia, 8 p.m., $12

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Tower of Power Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m., $40

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Caribbean Night with [illegible] Kenny's, Dorsey's Locker, 11 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Tony Savadove Johnny Foley's Irish House, 4 p.m., free

Classical & Opera

SF Symphony performing [illegible], Symphonic [illegible] Elgar Enigma Variations w/ violinist James Ehnes and conducted by [illegible], Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $15-$140

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] with Claude Wo Eric Garland's Jazz Session, Amnesia, 7 p.m., free

Ricardo Scales playing [illegible] piano, Top of the Mark, 6:30-11:30 p.m., $5

Wednesday Jazz Night Amnesia, 7 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

All Your Juices w/ [illegible] Mountain, [illegible] Lovers, 8:30 p.m., $8

Dollar Dears w/ The [illegible] Hideout in the Hill, 9 p.m., $8

The Dandelion War w/ [illegible], Elbo Room, 9 p.m., $TBA

Jody Expedience w/ [illegible] the Little [illegible], Rock & Bowl Music Hall, 8 p.m., $5-$8

New York City Queens 50 Mason Social House, 6 p.m., free

Ate The Tiger w/ The Lower 48 and [illegible] Standard Poodle, Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m., $8

The Spanish [illegible] w/ [illegible] and Jeff Campbell, Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $7

Mezzanine [illegible] w/ [illegible], Karen, Everett, and The [illegible], The Fillmore, 6:45 p.m., $32.50

White Arrows & Painted Palms The Depot, 8 p.m., free

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Jeremy [illegible] Boom Boom Boom, 9:30 p.m., $5

Mycle Wastman w/ Austin Jenckes, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $15, $20

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Boom & Boom Night w/ DJ [illegible] & Johnnyguitar, [illegible], 10 p.m., $5

Submissions for music listings should be emailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is fourteen days prior to the event date.

VENUE DIRECTORY

SAN FRANCISCO

50 Mason Social House 50 Mason St., 415-433-5050

103 Harriet 103 Harriet St., 415-264-3745

111 Minna Gallery 111 Minna St., 415-974-1719

222 Club 222 Hyde St., 415-440-0222

330 Ritch 330 Ritch St., 415-541-9574

1015 Folsom 1015 Folsom St., 415-431-1200

Amnesia 853 Valencia St., 415-970-0012

Amoeba Music 1855 Haight St., 415-831-1200

Audium 1616 Bush St., 415-771-1616

Axel Bar & Johnny 1 Tillman Pl., 415-397-4150

[illegible] Club 5087 Cabrillo St., 415-[illegible]

Beach Chalet 1000 Great Highway, 415-386-8439

Brava Theater 2789 24th St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] 365 Club 1125 Columbus Ave., 415-474-0365

Biscuits & Blues 401 Mason St., 415-292-2583

Boom Boom Room 1601 Fillmore St., 415-673-8000

Bottom of the Hill 1233 17th St., 415-621-4455

Bowl & [illegible] Music Hall 1710 Geneva St., 415-[illegible]

Brava's 2789 Mission St., 415-[illegible]

Cafe du Nord 2170 Market St., 415-861-5016

Club International 509 Haight St., 415-580-1130

Café Claude [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

Cat Club 1190 Folsom St., 415-431-3332

The Cellar 685 Sutter St., 415-441-5678

[illegible] Acoustic 421 [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

Club Fugazi 678 Green St., 415-421-4222

[illegible] Broadway Music Hall 201 Van Ness Ave., 415-864-6000

DNA Lounge 375 11th St., 415-626-1409

Doc's Clock 2575 Mission St., 415-824-3627

Edinburgh Castle 950 Geary St., 415-885-4074

El Rincon 2700 16th St., 415-[illegible]

El Rio 3158 Mission St., 415-282-3325

Elbo Room 647 Valencia St., 415-552-7788

The Endup 401 6th St., 415-646-0999

The Fillmore 1805 Geary Blvd., 415-346-6000

Great American Music Hall 859 O'Farrell St., 415-885-0750

Hemlock Tavern 1131 Polk St., 415-923-0923

[illegible] 601 Van Ness Ave., 415-362-4400

Hotel Utah 500 4th St., 415-546-6300

The Independent 628 Divisadero St., 415-[illegible]

Johnny Foley's Irish House 243 O'Farrell St., 415-954-0777

The Knockout 3223 Mission St., 415-550-6994

[illegible] Lounge 590 [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

Make-Out Room 3225 22nd St., 415-647-2888

Mezzanine 444 Jessie St., 415-625-8880

Mighty 119 Utah St., 415-762-0151

Milk Bar 1840 Haight St., 415-387-6455

Monarch 101 6th St.

The [illegible] 60 West Portal Ave., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] Valley Ministry 1010 [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

Park Chalet Brewery 1000 Great Highway, 415-386-8439

Paris Parisienne 1690 Powell St., 415-[illegible]

Public Works 161 Erie St., 415-932-0955

Red Devil Lounge 1695 Polk St., 415-921-1695

The Regency Ballroom 1300 Van Ness Ave., 415-673-5716

[illegible] 628 20th St., 415-[illegible]

Rickshaw Stop 155 Fell St., 415-861-2011

The Riptide 3639 Taraval St., 415-681-8433

Sacred Grounds 498 Clement St., 415-387-3344

[illegible] 222 Mason St., 415-[illegible]

Ruby Skye 420 Mason St., 415-693-0777

San Francisco Conservatory of Music 50 Oak St., 415-503-6275

Slip's Jamaica 453 Cortland Ave., 415-282-3458

Skylark 3089 16th St., 415-621-9294

Slim's 333 11th St., 415-522-0333

Stud Bar 399 9th St., 415-[illegible]

Space 550 550 Barneveld Ave., 415-550-8286

[illegible] 399 9th St., 415-[illegible]

Sub/Mission Gallery 2183 Mission St., 415-255-7227

SupperClub 657 Harrison St., 415-348-0900

[illegible] Bar 561 Geary St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] 540 Howard St., 415-[illegible]

Thee Parkside 1600 17th St., 415-252-1330

Top of the Mark 999 California St., 415-616-6916

[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

Music Johnny 443 Broadway St., 415-[illegible]

The Warfield 982 Market St., 415-775-7722

Yoshi's San Francisco 1330 Fillmore St., 415-655-5600





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SAT 1/26
VINYL & SPECIAL GUESTS, LEDO WITH DR. JECOMTE & FRIENDS
SUN 1/27
TYLER BRYANT & THE SHAKEDOWN
LEA GRANT
THU 1/31
AS SEEN ON TENACIOUS D
KYLE GASS BAND
THE APPETIZERS, SHARYFAH
FRI 2/01
RAPPIN' 4-TAY
BLACK C, BELLUM, BENNER, PLUS MORE, HOSTED BY LIQUITO
SAT 2/02
DOS FOUR
NICETOAZ, DJ MAZ BIEZ
TUE 2/05
PAINTED PALMS
ROBIN BARD, EARS OF THE BOHEMIAN (DJ SET), WILSON JEANS (DJ SET)
THU 2/07
THE HOT 8 BRASS BAND
FRI 2/08
NOVA ALBION
WILD CUB, ENDSHORE, AARON ATELIER
SAT 2/09
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LONESOME LOCOMOTIVE
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QUEEN AFRICA
WEDNESDAY 1/23 & FREE
LENZ
THE MALLARD, BARRY AND BRIAN
FRIDAY 2/1
Z-TRIP
BEAT SQUARE, DJ PLATOON
FRIDAY 1/25
BLACKALICIOUS
BLACK & WHITE LIVE BAND, KEN CRUDE, DJ DAVE D
TUESDAY 2/5
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THURSDAY 1/31
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TRAILS AND WAYS
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DJ&DANCE

EAST BAY

WEDNESDAY 23

Hard Candy w/ [illegible] and **Evil Needle** spanking edgy electronic for girls who love girls. White Horse Inn, 8 p.m. $5 $7

The Jet Set w/ DJ Santana and special guests. Lake's Taproom & Lounge 9 p.m., free

The Jump Off: Booty Call Hip-Hop w/ Blu spinning hip-hop. Club 21 9 p.m. 86-515

Spinning Gondolas w/ DJ Fee Bag. The Layover 6 p.m., free

Persuasion Latin Holiday night w/ host Violeta Mersh and DJs. 7 p.m., 86-515

Success resident DJs Soul Prophets and Layola, and special guests spin hip-hop, deep house, broken beat, uptempo dancehall, reggae and Bollywood rhythms. Noonie Bar & Lounge 9 p.m., free

Bootie Shindig Wednesdays The Black Shindig 10 p.m., free

Thirsty Work DJ Freddie Thirsty spins everything from doo-wop to punk rock from the '50s through the '90s. Manhattan's Saloon, 10 p.m. 2 a.m., free

Underground Soul Sessions spinning deep house, broken beat, hip-hop, and R&B. Eat Art Bar and Lounge 9 p.m., $5 before 10, $10 after

THURSDAY 24

Easy Language w/ [illegible] G-Acen and Guru-G spinning '80s and '90s funk, pop, R&B, and hip-hop. Lake's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

Noonie Tuesday w/ Bar Maven Beverly and Spanch Frantic. The Layover 10 p.m., free

Club Fever w/ Senses Own Sound spinning reggae & dancehall. Shashamane Restaurant, 10 p.m., free

Outlandish Thursdays Radio, 10 p.m., free

DJ Acid's spinning eclectic ear candy. Ringmaster's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free

DJ Night DJs spinning turbodancic pop, mainstream rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free

DJ Justin Noonie spins. 9 p.m., free

DJ Nate spinning lounge. Last Gangbuild Lounge 9 p.m. 2 a.m., free

Pleasure Drop w/ DJs Bobby B aka Ryba spinning underwater ballad and reggae. The Missouri Lounge, 10 p.m., free

Riff Raff indie pop, mash-ups, rare wave tracks, 10 p.m. 2 a.m., free

Tasty ladies' night w/ DJ Ida Jacuzzi spinning hip-hop & R&B. Club 21, 9 p.m. $12 $15

Temple w/ DJ Mal-Rene Ramirez spinning global house, power mix, White Horse Inn, 10 p.m.-midnight, free

Urban Roots DJs Pure Sake Trio and White Magic play dance house, afrobeat, reggae, Sumer Bar & Lounge 9 p.m. free

Uptick Thursdays w/ DJ Rat Pack and guests spinning indie reggae and Mexican funk. Continental Club 9 p.m. 2 a.m., $5

Wayne Jones Sessions featuring Blu, Carlos Mena and Capt. Barnun and Bar, 9 p.m. and

FRIDAY 25

Club 21 [illegible] spins at Lake Merritt, Club 21 9 p.m. 86-515

Club Sparks w/ DJ 40 Cents and hip-hop. White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., free

DJ Real Noonie The Layover 9 p.m., and

DJ Night DJs spinning turbodancific pop, mainstream rock & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m. free

DJ Odissa x Trashbastic Happy Hour w/ B spinning hip-hop, soul & funk, Parkway Lounge 5-8 p.m. free

DJ Noonie & Kevin Gilmore Spins Night Market 9:30 p.m. $5

DJ Night Moore Sumer Bar & Lounge 9 p.m. free

Noonie Fridays rotating DJs spinning hip hop, R&B and reggae. New Karibbean City 8 p.m., $1 admission until 1 a.m.

Temple w/ DJ Zita The Layover, 10 p.m. free

Proxis Club 9 Year Anniversary w/ DJ Noonie and DJ Platurn The Night Light, 9 p.m. free

Friday Night Bumps w/ guest DJs spinning salsa. La Est africa Cafe 10 p.m., $5

Friday Kills Noonie w/ DJ Supa K, Fonne, 10 p.m. $5

Public Eat Art Bar and Lounge, 9 p.m., STBA

Happy Noonie w/ DJ Golden Gates spinning punk, rock, indie & metal rock. The Missouri Lounge 8:30 p.m., free

Hip-Hop Noonie Noonie w/ Naked DJ Club 1220 8 p.m. $5

Radiant Shacks w/ DJ Boy Wonder, Sumer Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m. free $5

More Listings Online

Get info about hundreds of Bay Area events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

cover after 11 p.m.

Latin Explosion DJ Jorge Estevez spins cumbia, salsa, merengue, ghetto, Spanish pop, & house. Shoreline Bar 9 p.m. 2 a.m. $6-$15

Old School hip-hop and funk. Radio, 9 p.m. free

Sumer Night w/ DJ Noonie spinning reggae soca beats & R&B. Noonie Paradise Club 10 p.m. Noonie free before 11:30 p.m.

Retro-Active Noonie beats beats '80s pop night. Ringmaster's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m. free

The Sandbox Channel w/ Yoga Mike spinning electronic, afro-rhythms, cumbia, gangsterrr salsa, reggae reggaeton & electro. The Missouri Lounge 10 p.m. free

Sultry Fridays DJ Lush & Pat Rod spin R&B & soul. Kendall's Carnival, 9 p.m. $5

World Beat Fridays featuring DJ Dego spinning world beat, samba, bomba merengue, dancehall reggae, spanning house beats, & more. Ginger Lounge 10 p.m.

SATURDAY 26

All Freedoms DJ Noonie Jah spinning 1999 / hip-hop. Fonic, 10 p.m., free

The Indie Face hosted by Sam Kennedy. Noonie Music 7 p.m. and

Dance & Vow Noonie DJ Trance spins classic 80's hits. Conga Lounge 10 p.m. free

Club Mischief w/ DJ Pooh and guests spanning hip-hop & R&B. Noonie and the 9 p.m. $8 before 11 p.m.

DJ Night DJs spinning turbodancific pop, mainstream rock & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m. free

Noonie Saturdays Cost 12/21 p.m., $6

Island Roots Presents, Paradise the Art LA N.E. a. DJs Kelly Arevalo and Ray Robles plus live music and Samoan Jigga Rouge 2-9 p.m. free

La Boca Loca Latino monday night w/ DJs spanning salsa, merengue & Noonie plus live guest appearance Club 21 8 p.m. $6-$15

Land Saturdays w/ DJ Luna spinning club beats, Latin beats, hip-hop, and even White Horse Inn 9 p.m. free before 9 p.m. $5 after

Magic Milk Noonie DJ Blood & guests Beat phone surfing extravaganzas Kingman's Lucky Lounge 9 p.m. and

Samoan Saturdays rotating DJs spin classic Nu-Nu's neo soul and world Noonie. Lake's Taproom & Lounge, 10 p.m. $10 Noonie 11 p.m. $10 after

Sumerstar Pre Red & Al Sapronis Eat Art Bar and Lounge, 10 p.m. $10

Unpeople Oakland The New Parish, 8 p.m. $5

Throop w/ DJ Kenani spanning mashups, funk house and soul. Noonie Bar & Lounge 9 p.m. $5

Total Mind Fuck w/ Bastche & Noonie spanning hip-hop, metal, punk, hardcore & more. The Missouri Lounge, 10 p.m. free

SUNDAY 27

The Breaks Dancing students Mix Noonie and DJ Dynasty. Eat Art Bar and Lounge, 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. free

Culture DJs Kaminal Noodle, & guests spin funk, soul with house, & more. Cafe Noonie 10 p.m. free

Club Boogie Beach and Roe, 5 p.m. $8

Dedicated to the Sun Lake Merritt, all-session night with DJ Pointdexter, Salsa Cafe, 5-8 p.m. free

DJ Randy Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m. free

King of Kings Reggae Sundays spinning reggae dancehall and lovers rock with resident DJ Smoky. The New Parish, 10 p.m. $10 free before 11p.m.

La Verenita Noonie and Bar 5 p.m. 86-86

Noodle Fish + Blu Sundays DJs spin Blu, exclusively & noire reggae. The Noisy Noisy Club, 7 p.m. free

MONDAY 28

Caribbean Nights DJs Sang and Lukis Grow spanning world reggae Latin and Pop/Rock. Sumer Bar & Lounge, 11 p.m. free

Habana Mondays The Layover, 9 p.m. free

Three-Day Standard DJ Pedrick Turner spins local favorites. Lake's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m. free

Underground Lounge psyche '60s & retro '70s music. Radio 10 p.m. 2 a.m., free

TUESDAY 29

Country Music Night plus line dancing. Cafe 9 p.m. free

DJ Night DJs spanning turbodancific pop, mainstream rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m. free

DJ World spanning punk, Last Gangbuild Lounge 9 p.m. 2 a.m. free

Funky Skeletons w/ DJ Fatima BC spanning funk, reggae, electronic dancehall, Noonie beat, dirty south, grime 70's hip-hop, salsa, and dub. The Layover, 9 p.m., free

PICK

The People Party

The night's boyhood that gets down together stays together — at least that's the thinking behind The People Party, which happens every fourth Saturday at The New Parish (579 18th St., Oakland). When local DJs and live noters started The People Party in late 2009, Brooklyn-based DJ Charlie Mess gripped its immigrant act. Now Mess returns, five years later on Saturday, Jan. 26, to spin the eclectic dance music — everything from house to hip-hop — that has come to define the party. Mess was born in Puerto Rico, raised in Brooklyn, and spent summers in the Dominican Republic, an influence heard in his own style, and influences from his label Ocho Records. Joining Mess are Lady Ryan and resident DJs Cali and Cecil. 9 p.m., $5. 21+. TheNewParish.com

— *Whitney Phaneuf*

Low Roots Real Roots Sumer Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m. STBA

Soul Funk DJ Juan G and Harley spanning reggae, dancehall and rock-an rhythms. Lake's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

LIVE AND IN PERSON!

COCKNEY REJECTS & YOUTH BRIGADE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

THE UPTOWN, OAKLAND

$20/$25 9PM 1928 TELEGRAPH AVENUE

OOUBLE-CROSSED

Plus saddlebacking and Dear Abby respectively

By Dan Savage

A friend of mine on the opposite coast is a crossdresser considering transitioning. He came out to a female friend he had known for a long time but hadn't seen in a while, and she told her that she wanted her to come to her house fully dressed for some hot sex to "explore her bi-curiosity" on some shit. I told her to go for it, saying gender-transgression play is potentially hot. I neglected to mention that she should only go for it if she trusted this girl (hereafter known as "Evil Bitch"). Evil Bitch backed out as soon as she arrived, but took her out to dinner (still fully dressed) as consolation. When she first told me this, I thought "Oh well. Evil Bitch got cold feet that sucks." Now my friend is telling me that Evil Bitch messaged a bunch of mutual friends he wasn't out to outing my friend to them. After my friend told Evil Bitch that what went down between them was private, Evil Bitch just responded with "LOL k" and THEN posted pictures from their dinner date — fully dressed — on her Facebook. Is there anything my friend can do? She's freaking out and thinks that Evil Bitch ruined her life

Friend Of Crossdresser Betrayed By Evil Bitch

Twenty years ago, Your Friend could've told Your Friend's relatives and whatever friends Your Friend had in common with Evil Bitch that they got dressed up for a laugh and Your Friend can't for the life of Your Friend understand why Evil Bitch is misrepresenting what they did that night. But it can only assume that Your Friend and Evil Bitch exchanged e-mails, swapped texts, sent DMs via Twitter, etc., so Your Friend shouldn't accuse Evil Bitch of lying. That will prompt Evil Bitch to retaliate by posting e-mails, texts and DMs to Facebook, which will only make things worse for Your Friend.

Since Your Friend can't turn the ground on Evil Bitch — and since calling Evil B tch a bar will only make things worse for Your Friend — there's no way for Your Friend to nip this in the bud. Your Friend can only get out in front of it. Your Friend is out about the crossdressing now at least, and Your Friend should embrace being out with as much good grace and courage as Your Friend can muster. And paradoxically, the more at peace with being out Your Friend appears to be, the fewer people Your Friend will be outed to. If Your Friend tries to keep this quiet, other malicious assholes will realize they can hurt Your Friend by spreading the news. If Your Friend acts like Your Friend couldn't care less who knows, malicious assholes will be less likely to spread it around.

I've known a few people who were outed by malicious shits — outed as gay or kinky, as swingers or all of the above — and it sucks and it hurts and, yes, it can turn a person's life upside down. But most of the people I've known who were outed looked back on the experience a year or two later with — well — not with gratitude, but they woke up one day happy to be free of the stress of keeping their big, secret. Maybe Your Friend will feel the same way, and Your Friend will have Evil Bitch to thank.

In the meantime, often Your Friend your support and get in the face of anyone who gives Your Friend any grief.

I just read your column about evangelical girls "selfsacrificing" (having anal sex in order to preserve their virginities). I am a 21 year-old and have been sexually active since age 14. I engage in oral and anal sex. I have never had vaginal intercourse, so technically I am still a virgin. My reason for doing this has NOTHING to do with religion and everything to do with AVOIDING PREGNANCY. And yes, I think it would be nice to give the man I marry a rare gift on our wedding night. And with my experiences over the past seven years, I believe I will be able to keep my future husband fulfilled and quite happy in the bedroom

No Name

And is a highly effective birth-control method and there's only one known case of someone getting pregnant through oral sex. (Google around and you'll find it pretty quick.) But anal intercourse is also the most effective means of HIV transmission — eighteen times more effective than vaginal intercourse — so I hope you're using condoms, regardless. And one quibble. If technically you're still a virgin, NN, then technically my husband is still a virgin, too. Yeah . . . no. My husband isn't a virgin technically or otherwise and neither are you. NN. Your vagina might be a virgin, sure, but you're not.

PAULINE "DEAR ABBY" PHILLIPS: I grew up reading both Eppie "Ann Landers" Lederer in the *Chicago Sun-Times* and Pauline "Dear Abby" Phillips in the *Chicago Tribune*. I always preferred Ann's column to Abby's column — did you know they were twin sisters? — and I'm actually sitting at Ann's desk, which I bought at an auction after hendeath, as I write this. So you could definitely call me more of an Ann fan. But I have a newfound appreciation for Abby after reading Margalit Fox's terrific obit in *The New York Times* (read it here: TinyURL.com/abbyobit).

The obit ends with a letter to Pauline from readers in San Francisco followed by the most famous three-word response in the whole storied history of the advice-column racket:

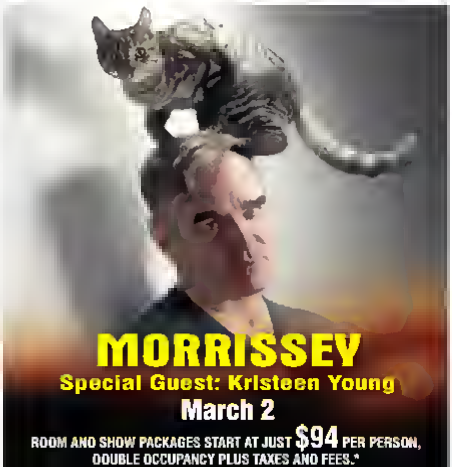
Dear Abby: Two men who claim to be father and adopted son just bought an old mansion across the street and fixed it up. We notice a very suspicious mixture of company coming and going at all hours — blacks, whites, Orientals, women who look like men and men who look like women. This has always been considered one of the finest sections of San Francisco, and these weirdos are giving it a bad name. How can we improve the neighborhood? — Nob Hill Residents

Dear Residents: You could move

Phillips wrote that decades ago — back when adult gay men often resorted to adopting them adult partners because it was the only way to secure any legal protection for their relationships — and people are still quoting it today. I don't think anyone working in this genre will ever top it. My sympathies to Jeanne Phillips, Pauline's daughter and the current author of the *Dear Abby* column. ●

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at TheStranger.com/savage
mail@savagelove.net





EAST BAY EXPRESS

Classifieds

Contact Us

Ads can be placed Mon - Fri during business hours by calling 510-875-3000 or by E-mailing:

C[illegible]

Online

Limit 35 characters per line. Business ads are $1 per line.

Ad Deadline:

[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 420593
The following individual is doing business as: **Stonemaking Specialties**, 1301 Shoreway Road Address, 2 Miller Ave Suite 263, Mill Valley, CA 94941 Mailing Address same as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Terry Aere Trust, 1010 Harris Ave, Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a Corporation in California. The business began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 10/1/13. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 10/2/13
Bill Bates
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 422818
The following individual is doing business as: **NAU Investments** 56 Mel Address 1041 Mountain Blvd Oakland, CA 94611 Mailing Address same as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): NAU Investments, a Limited Liability Company (LLC) 1041 Mountain Blvd Oakland, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company (LLC). The business began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 08/22/13
NAU Investments
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 422659
The following individual is doing business as: **FCC Payroll Service** Street Address: 3480 Alhambra Avenue CA 94605. Mailing Address same as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alison L. Jones, 3480 Alhambra Ave Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/02/2012. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 12/18/12.
FCC Payroll Service
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 419306-B
The following individual is doing business as: **Tranquil Trees Arborist** 4810 Foothill Road Pleasanton CA 94588 Mailing Address: same as all set as Kenny Boggs (a) by the following owner(s): Travis N Kennedy Inc. 4810 Foothill Blvd. Oakland, CA 94601. Her business is conducted by a Corporation in California. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/02/2012. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 12/18/12.
Kenny Boggs
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 419306-A
The following individual is doing business as: **Tranquil Trees Arborist** 4810 Foothill Road Pleasanton CA 94588 Mailing Address: same as all set as Kenny Boggs (a) by the following owner(s): Travis N Kennedy Inc. 4810 Foothill Blvd. Oakland, CA 94601. Her business is conducted by a Corporation in California. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/02/2012. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 12/18/12.
Travis Kennedy
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 423327
The following individual is doing business as: **Retirement Tour Guides** Street Address: 2800 Central Avenue Apt. C, Alameda, CA 94501-4364. Mailing Address: same as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rebecca Bazemore 29 Casablanca Court, Apt. B, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 11/13/13
MARKE FIRST OFFICE
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 423495
The following individual is doing business as: **Bill For Hugs** Street Address: 1168 44th Avenue Oakland CA 94601 Mailing Address: same as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bill For Hugs, a Limited Liability Company (LLC) 1168 44th Avenue Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Corporation in California. The business began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/1/13. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 11/14/13
Bill For Hugs
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 423496
The following individual is doing business as: **Bill For Hugs** Street Address: 1168 44th Avenue Oakland CA 94601 Mailing Address: same as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bill For Hugs, a Limited Liability Company (LLC) 1168 44th Avenue Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Corporation in California. The business began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/1/13. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 11/14/13
Bill For Hugs
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE / Relocation of Ø ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE (see sec. 23958.4 B&P)
Date: September 9, 2013
To the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned applicant intends to apply to the Department to sell Alcoholic Beverages at premises located at the following address:
1011 TELEGRAPH AVE
OAKLAND, CA 94607
ALAMEDA COUNTY
Type of license(s) applied for: 41 On-Sale Beer and Wine Eating Place
The names and the address of the person or persons who intend to operate the business are:
MARIA ROSARIO
SALGADO-RODRIGUEZ
1011 TELEGRAPH AVE
OAKLAND, CA 94607
Publication dates claimed or anticipated: September 9, 2013
Any person desiring to object to the issuance of the license may file with the Department a letter or petition stating the grounds for objection. Such letter or petition must be received by the Department within thirty days after the last date of publication of this notice. For further information, you may contact the Department at 1325 Howe Road, Suite 310, Martinez, CA 94553-7853, (925) 372-1281.
9/5/2013

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG13690300
Superior Court of California, Alameda County
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612
IN ALL INCLUSIVE PERSONS:
Petitioner: Jeremie Jefferson Hussein filed a petition with this court for a decree changing my name as follows: Present Name: JEREMIE JEFFERSON HUSSEIN to Proposed Name: BIANCA MARIE SNOW-HUSSEIN. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING:
Date: 9/27/13 Time: 8:30 AM Dept: 21
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express.
Date: September 3, 2013
Filed: December 1, 2012
Signed: Richard B. Hart
Judge of the Superior Court
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
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Judge of the Superior Court
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG13690300
Superior Court of California, Alameda County
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612
IN ALL INCLUSIVE PERSONS:
Petitioner: Jeremie Jefferson Hussein filed a petition with this court for a decree changing my name as follows: Present Name: LAURA JANE MARGARITA SINGER to Proposed Name: NAOMI MARGARITA SINGER. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG13690300
Superior Court of California, Alameda County
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612
IN ALL INCLUSIVE PERSONS:
Petitioner: Jeremie Jefferson Hussein filed a petition with this court for a decree changing my name as follows: Present Name: LAURA JANE MARGARITA SINGER to Proposed Name: NAOMI MARGARITA SINGER. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
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Judge of the Superior Court
9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/2013

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To Berkley & Her Business
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Trustee Sale No. 12-11925 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT DATED 06-27-2012. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 02-08-2013 at 12:00 PM, ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES (Trustee) under and pursuant to Notice of Delinquent Assessment recorded 07-02-2012 as Instrument 2012211452 Book -, Page - of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of ALAMEDA County, CA, property owned by LISA SUI MEI YU WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). at THE FALLON ST EMERYSIDE EXIT TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE 1225 FALLON STREET OAKLAND CA all right, title and interest under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment in the property situated in said County, describing the land therein: A.P.N. 049-1528-239 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 0 ADMIRAL DRIVE #776 EMERYVILLE, CA 94608 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum due under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment with interest thereon, as provided in said notice, advances if any, estimated fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee. The estimated total amount of the unpaid balance as the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is $9,131.59. PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION. The claimant, WATERGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714 573 1965 or visit this Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com for information regarding the sale number assigned to this case, 12-11925. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. DATE: December 26, 2012 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES NICOLE THORNSBURRY, Authorized Signature FOR SALES INFORMATION: CALL (714) 573-1965 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES 990 RESERVE DRIVE, SUITE 200 ROSEVILLE, CA 95678 (877) 282-4991 P1013006 1/16, 1/23, 01/302013

gay (gā) **1.** there once was a time when all "gay" meant was "happy." then it meant "homosexual." now, people are saying "that's so gay" to mean dumb and stupid. which is pretty insulting to gay people (and we don't mean the "happy" people). **2.** so please, knock it off. **3.** go to ThinkB4YouSpeak.com

Ad Council

GLSEN









Adult

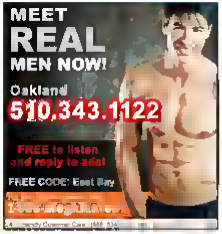
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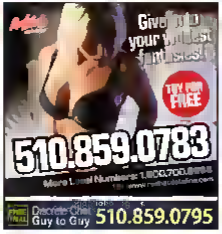
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